PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

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THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 6th April, 1953.

The House met at Two of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

WAGONS FOR COAL TRANSPORT

*1169. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that considerable difficulty is being experienced by various mills and manufacturing concerns in meeting their coal requirements because of the non-availability of wagons?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take any steps to remove the difficulty in the availability of wagons?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Although there has been an improvement in the coal supply position, it is a fact that due to inadequate supply of wagons it is not possible to meet the full requirements of all industries.

(b) Government have already taken action in the matter. A large number of wagons, both broad and metre gauge, are on order, which will allow for an increase of about 3,000 wagons each year. This increase will have to be suitably shared by the different kinds of traffic, including coal, in the light of competing demands, and their comparative importance and urgency.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government take into account the requirements of wagons for internal supply before agreeing to make wagons available for export purposes?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Certainly the Government keep in view the internal requirements, but at the same time Government cannot dispense altogether with exports.

Shri T. N. Singh: Are the difficulties entirely due to lack of wagons or failure to properly rationalize the distribution of wagons?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is mostly due to lack of availability of wagons.

Shri Sarmah: May I know if coal from Ledo could be supplied to the neighbouring Assam tea estates?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I would like to have notice of this question.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know when these metre gauge wagons will be available to export coal?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not quite follow the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Member want the export of wagons? The question relates to coal and not wagons.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know when the metre gauge wagons will be available for export of coal?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot say whether all the export of coal will be either by metre gauge or by broad gauge wagons. I cannot give the break-up just now.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मिनिस्टर महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वैगन्स के बटवारे का क्या तरीका अख्तियार किया जाता है ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : हमेशा कोशिश हो रही है ।

Shri Sarmah *rose—*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We discussed all these matters on the Railway Budget.

Shri Sarmah: Will Government be pleased to consider delivering the coal of the locality to industries which are in the neighbourhood?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That is the objective, but it is not capable of application in all cases. So we have got to take the overall position into consideration before we rationalize transport.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: Is the Government aware that the local coal in Assam has to be purchased at a much higher rate than Raniganj coal imported there and is it a fact that for want of wagons Raniganj coal has not been imported into Assam for some time?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I take the information from the hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question No. 1170.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If I may suggest, we may take up questions 1170 and 1172 together.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Another question on Coffee. Yes.

COFFEE PRICES

*1170. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the prices of coffee have marked any decrease in recent months?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take any steps to avert possible sharp price fluctuations?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No, Sir. No perceptible prospects of return to normal prices are indicated.

(b) Government have been in communication with the Coffee Board in regard to this matter—I attended a meeting of the Board on 31st December 1952 at Bangalore and discussed the question with the members of the Board. The prices I am sorry to say have shown an upward trend since then and the Government have had no cooperation from the Board in its attempts to reduce prices. Government have under active consideration the steps that could be taken to achieve the desired end.

EXPORT OF COFFEE

*1172. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations were made urging Government to permit export of the accumulated stocks of coffee seeds following a twenty per cent. drop in the price of good quality seeds in the coffee market; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). In December 1952 representations were received from the Kanara Chamber of Commerce and the Andhra Chamber of Commerce for allowing exports of coffee seeds. But it would not be correct to say that there has been a 20 per cent. drop in the price of coffee. In fact, prices have been steadily going up from the month of April 1952. The increase in price is in the region of over Rs. 110 per cwt. considering that the basic price fixed for Plantation A variety was Rs. 209 per cwt. In the circumstances Government did not feel that it would be wise to export coffee seeds from the 1952-53 crop, as it would seriously interfere with supplies available for internal consumers.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has there been much accumulation of coffee stocks in recent months?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir. There has been no phenomenal accumulation of coffee stocks.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know what is the estimated requirement of the country and what is India's production?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The production is somewhere in the region of 75,000 cwts. I have not got the correct figures but as it seems today India's consumption will be approximately that figure, provided prices are reasonable.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Due to the difficulties inherent in the present system of auction sales may I know whether the price is kept controlled by a handful of dealers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There must be some reason for the price going up from Rs. 196 for Plantation A variety in the month of March to Rs. 317 in September. I think, there must be some kind of rigging up of the market by interested parties.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what is the total accumulation of coffee now?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is not a fact that the Coffee House Workers Union suggested the opening of a number of coffee houses in Northern India to regularly clear the stocks accumulating and may I also know whether it is not a fact that the Indian Coffee Board has repeatedly come out with a statement that they are requested by North Indian cities to open Coffee houses?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not know if it is at all germane but I must require notice.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether Government are at present considering any steps to keep these fluctuations of price in control?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position is this: I took some interest in this matter from July onwards because of increasing complaints from various consumers that the prices have gone up considerably, and my attempts at getting the Board to co-operate were not successful. I was told that the Chairman of the Board was away in England. Until he came back, nothing could be done. In fact, according to the present Act, the powers of the Chief Marketing Officer are subordinate to those of the Chairman of the Board. Therefore, at a meeting of the Board on the 31st December, 1952, I told them that if they would not devise methods to bring down the prices within three months, they must allow the Government to follow its own way. I am sorry, Sir, that there has been a certain amount of propaganda since then and instead of co-operation from the Board, in their meeting on the 10th of March, I have been told that the Chairman has made a tirade against the Government pointing out inequities of Government over a period of years. The position is now being examined by the Law Ministry as to what powers Government have in this matter. I am waiting to hear from the Law Ministry to take further steps.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government is non-cooperating with the Board and there is a lot of complaint from the Board's members regarding this matter?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It usually happens that when a Board non-co-operates with Government it says that Government is non-cooperating with it.

Shri Punnoose: Is it not a fact that the Coffee Board previously demanded that there should be no export so that the prices could be controlled, and may I hope that Government will bear in mind the interests of the Indian consumers when the question of export of coffee is considered?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The decision this year has been that there should be no exports, and the reason was that prices were going up and the interests of the consumer suffered. I do not know what the Government did before May 1952. I have been told that Government have been issuing contradictory instructions to the Board, but when Government's instructions were specific, I hoped the Board would obey those instructions. Apparently, that is not the case.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I know whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the causes for the rise in the price of coffee?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir. I have not conducted any enquiry, but I think it is pretty plain that somebody has rigged up the prices and the beneficiary happens to be the Board, and the producers.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether Government are considering to revise the rules regarding the auction sales at present in vogue?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The whole question, as I said, is being now considered by Government. Under the present Act, Government can take some very drastic steps, but in regard to the intermediate steps I think the position of Government happens to be a little doubtful. If Government's powers are clear, then very possibly I might give instructions to the Board to revise their rate of auctions. All that we have done so far is that we have asked them to put out more coffee—nearly 2000 tons of coffee—every month for auction. I am not quite sure if those instructions have been obeyed yet.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether there was any export of coffee in 1952 in spite of the decision of the Board that there should be no export of coffee?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In the 1952-53 season, coffee was not exported. I am unable to say whether there had been any export in 1952: I require notice.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether Government are aware that coffee has been hoarded by the traders from the 1951-52 releases and now they are applying for export after hoarding?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The agitation for export comes from various quarters: from Chambers of Commerce and also from interested growers and it is also raised in the forum of legislative assemblies. It is very difficult to say what the motive power behind this demand for export is.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have taken any concrete steps to increase internal consumption of coffee, especially in non-coffee-consuming areas in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment, my headache seems to be that we are not able to meet the demand at reasonable prices.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is the increase in price due to fall in production or increase in consumption?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think there has been any appreciable fall in production. On the other hand, in spite of the fact that the coffee produced per acre is low in Madras and Mysore, the production has risen. Very possibly, we have to assume that the other alternative is the correct one.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Trade with Central Asia

*1171. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh**: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that India's trade with Central Asia over the mountainous route of Ladakh has practically stopped since September, 1949?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take any steps to revive that trade?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sinkiang is a closed area to foreigners and local conditions there are not at present conductive to a revival of trade between India and Sinkiang.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government have any information about the Indian traders who had established themselves in Sinkiang before 1949?

Shri Karmarkar: Nothing has happened to Indian traders, except that trade has stopped.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Have they come to India, or are they still there?

Shri Karmarkar: We shall have to find out.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What was the volume of trade between India and Sinkiang before 1949?

Shri Karmarkar: I require notice.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: What were the reasons for the stoppage of the traffic and trade? Is the People's Government of China putting any obstruction in the way?

Shri Karmarkar: My hon. friend will be interested to know that as a result of the taking over of the province of Sinkiang by the People's Government of China towards the end of 1949, our Consulate-General at Kashgar which had been established there in December 1948 with the concurrence of the Nationalist Government of China had to stop functioning as the new Chinese Government refused to recognise it.

Shri Punnoose: What is the present position? Have we taken up that question with the People's Government of China?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir.

Claims for C.P.W.D. works at Stations now in Pakistan

*1173. **Shri Bahadur Singh**: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were any claims of pre-partition period on account of works got done by the C.P.W.D. at stations now in Pakistan; and

(b) whether the Government of India have undertaken liability in respect of such claims or they are under dispute?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In this connection hon. Members' attention is invited to the Press Communique dated the 23rd May 1948, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 20.]

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know what was the amount of the claims?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Claims of the value of Rs. 41,25,000 have been registered so far with the Accountant-General.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know whether any claims have been settled by private negotiations or arbitration?

Sardar Swaran Singh: None, Sir.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know what amount of claims has been dismissed?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No claims have yet been dismissed out of the amount that I have indicated.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know whether there are any claims which have been admitted and which have not been paid?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir.

Shri Bahadur Singh: Is it a fact that some of the claims which have been verified by the Pakistan Government have not yet been paid or adjusted?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is rather a general question and if any specific claim is indicated I can make enquiries But on the basis of the information available with me, I can say that there is no claim which has been verified by the Pakistan Government, and has not yet been paid.

Shri T. N. Singh: Can Government give any idea as to the claim made against the Pakistan Government—I mean the total claim made in this regard—or has no claim been made so far?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Obviously, that position will arise after payments have been made at our end.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that claims were sent to Pakistan for verification?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have you got replies from Pakistan?

Sardar Swaran Singh: To some, but not to all.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Out of the claims sent to them for verification, could we know what amount they have verified?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Actually, there appears to be some confusion on that point. It is not mainly for Governments to verify, but the verification has to take place through certain officers there, and in certain cases we can send our officers there to look up the records and verify, for themselves as to the existing state of affairs.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that certain contractors of goods who were asked to supply goods to stations now in Pakistan have not been paid, although the orders were placed by the then Government of India and Pakistan which was one?...

Sardar Swaran Singh: I won't be surprised if there is such a case.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: If so, what arrangements are Government going to make, to make payments to such claimants?

Sardar Swaran Singh: For that also, a decision has been taken; with regard to such contractual liabilities the same procedure is applicable, and they have to register their claims before a particular date, and such of them as have already registered their claims will be considered in consultation with the authorities in Pakistan.

Shri Gidwani: The Minister said that they are getting every facility from Pakistan to go and examine the records; if so, why has there been so much delay in settling all the claims so far?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I did not say that they give all the facilities for going there.

Shri Gidwani: You said that the officers can go and verify the records. You did say that. That is why, I want to know why there should have been so much delay. After all, it is now nearly five and a half years.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The facilities are not always available, and all times are not opportune for sending out officers.

Paper Manufacture from Sabai Grass

***1174. Shri Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a large quantity of Sabai Grass is produced in damin areas of Santhal Parganas in Bihar?

(b) Is there any scheme to revive paper-making from this grass as a cottage industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

Shri Jajware: Are Government aware that production of sabai grass in this area is gradually going down' if so, what is the reason therefor?

Shri Karmarkar: Our information is otherwise. In 1951-52 it went up to 1 lakh and some 75 thousand tons as against only 95 thousand tons in 1950-51.

Shri Jajware: Have Government given any consideration to this industry as a cottage industry of the aboriginal people — the *pahariyas* — who number several lakhs?

Shri Karmarkar: The *pahariyas* are already helped. We have guaranteed them an off-take of 2 lakh maunds at the rate of seven annas per maund. The prices are guaranteed and the quantity is also guaranteed, although the quantity they supply is less. So their interests are well safeguarded.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Have Government taken into consideration the figures of previous years? If they have not, will they kindly do so, because this is a matter of vital importance and I can tell the hon. Minister from my personal knowledge that the production is going down.

Shri Karmarkar: In view of the hon. Member's statement, I shall try to find out. My information at the moment is otherwise.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Has the guaranteed price for sabai grass been extended to the entire Chota Nagpur?

Shri Karmarkar: I thought I said about the Santhal Parganas. About Chota Nagpur I shall find out.

डा० आदव-बोर : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि इन पहाड़ियों की बस्ती में आग लग गई थी और उस से एक हजार मन घास जल गई थी ? अगर सरकार को यह मालूम है तो क्या वह इस की इन्क्वायरी करायेगी कि किसी इन्टरेस्टेड पार्टी ने तो यह काम नहीं किया ?

श्री करमरकर : अब तक ऐसी खबर नहीं मिली है । लेकिन अगर ऐसा होता भी है तो भी कुल घास की कीमत और उस के लाने का खर्च उन पहाड़ियों को दी जायेगी ।

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is the sabai grass taken over by the Government of India, or have they made arrangements with paper mills to take it over? The hon. Minister just said that they have arranged for an off-take of two lakhs. Or is it like this: that sabai growers get a guaranteed price for a guaranteed quantity?

Shri Karmarkar: Now Government owns the grass. Under the arrangement we had in successive years tried to give it to paper mills. For one year we gave it to Titaghur Paper Mills and for one year we gave it to Bengal Paper Mills. But during the current year no paper mill was coming up. Therefore, we gave it to the highest bidder, namely Rajkumar Singh.

Shri Soren: Is it a fact that production has deteriorated due to Government taking over the sabai grass concern from the *pahariyas*?

Shri Karmarkar: I promised to find out whether it has gone down. As I told the House a little earlier, Government are dealing with the matter themselves direct.

Ban on Exports of Scrap Mica

*1175. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the decision arrived at on the recommendations of the Mica Advisory Committee regarding the proposed ban on exports of scrap mica?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The recommendation of the Mica Advisory Committee is still under the consideration of Government.

Shri Nanadas: Do Government still believe that scrap mica is being used as a substitute for split mica and is affecting the export of split mica?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know what percentage of mica produced in the country is exported and what percentage is consumed by the indigenous industries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question relates to scrap mica.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is there any proposal before Government to start production of micanite out of the huge quantities of waste mica which is not an exportable commodity at present?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I believe there is some proposal. I cannot be very definite unless a question is put down.

COFFEE, RUBBER AND SILK ADVISORY BOARDS

*1176. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal to co-opt on the Advisory Boards of Coffee, Rubber and Silk industries, representatives of the workers and employees in these industries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The position is that there are already three representatives of labour each on the Indian Coffee Board and the Indian Rubber Board. There is no representative of labour on the Central Silk Board of today nor there is any provision in the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, for co-opting a representative of labour on the Board. It is, however, proposed to reconstitute the Board under the Central Silk Board (Amendment) Bill, 1952, which will provide labour representation on the Board.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether on these Boards the labour representatives are nominated by the Government, or by certain recognised associations?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: They are nominated by the Government on the advice of the Labour Ministry.

Shri K. K. Basu: In the new constitution of the Boards, which is under contemplation, will Government consider the possibility of nominating representatives suggested by the recognised Unions, and not Government nominees?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The amending Bills will come before the House in due course and any suggestions made by hon. Members of the House will be given due weight at the appropriate time.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Is it a fact that some of the labour representatives on the Rubber Board have never attended any of the meetings of the Board?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I want notice: I am not able to answer that question.

Shri Punnoose: Are Government aware of the fact that there is growing discontent among workers that their representatives are not taken on the Board?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Well, it is a matter of opinion. There must be some representatives. If those representatives perhaps do not represent the workers with whom my hon. friend is familiar, there might be other workers who have confidence in the representatives. These are all matters of opinion.

Shri Punnoose: My question is whether Government are aware of the discontent among the workers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, sometimes discontent is manufactured. We do not know when it is real and when it is manufactured.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is the hon. Minister aware of any such manufactured discontent?

Shri P. T. Chacko: Is it a fact that one of the labour representatives on the Rubber Board has recently submitted his resignation and if it be a fact, may I know whether Government are going to nominate a representative of any labour organisation in that vacancy?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not able to answer the first part of the question: I would require notice. The second part would not arise.

WESTERN INDIA OIL DISTRIBUTING COMPANY LTD.

*1177. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether of late the Western India Oil Distributing Company Ltd., Bombay, has been facing certain difficulties by way of trade war carried on by the Burmah Shell and Standard Vacuum Oil Companies;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representations from this Company seeking help; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) As this company has been out of business since the beginning of the last war, the question of trade war does not arise.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri K. K. Basu: Can the Minister assure us that there has been no complaint by the Western India Oil Distributing Company against the world monopolists—Burmah-Shell and others?

Shri Buragohain: This Company has not made any efforts to rehabilitate themselves, although Government paid them a little more than Rs. Ten lakhs in 1948 as compensation for some tanks taken from them during the war years. They however came forward with a proposal in 1951 to start an oil refinery to which Government replied that Government on their own would not set up any refinery or subsidise any. If any Company was interested in a project of that kind Government could give them only such other assistance as was necessary.

PURCHASE OF RAW RUBBER BY INDUSTRIALISTS

*1178. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Industrialists are refusing to purchase raw rubber at the controlled rate;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Industrialists in India are now refusing to purchase pale-latex-crepe rubber; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to relieve the producers consequent on the refusal of Industrialists to purchase raw rubber at the price fixed by Government?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No, Sir.

(b) We have received complaints of this character.

(c) The manufacturers have been purchasing their normal quota of indigenous rubber. There has however been some accumulation of stocks with producers. To relieve this accumulation, Government have taken the following measures:

(1) the movement control on rubber has been lifted so that the manufacturers could purchase whatever quantity they desire.

(2) 400 tons of group IV rubber, which includes Pale Latex Crepe, is being allowed to be exported.

(3) 200 tons of sole crepe is also being allowed to be exported.

(4) Government has also under consideration other measures like advancing loans so that the surplus stocks with producers could be taken off the market.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Why is it that pale-latex crepe rubber is not being purchased by the manufacturers this year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I cannot really assign reasons. But I have also heard that manufacturers are disinclined to buy this type of rubber. We have asked manufacturers not to stop purchasing. In the meantime I have called for a report from the Rubber Board in regard to the requests from stockists of pale-latex crepe rubber for export facilities.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, the stock position of raw rubber at present?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My information is that at the end of last month stocks with dealers, in estates, and with other middlemen was in the region of 5100 tons.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know the stock position of the manufactured rubber goods with the rubber manufacturers in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I would require notice.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that prices outside India are lesser and in view of the fact that prices are lesser, Government will allow stockists to export by putting themselves to a loss?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The first part of the question I have to answer in the affirmative, because world prices are going down further. I think today the price is somewhere about a little less than 1s. 9d. to 1s. 5d. and 5/8d. for Singapore rubber. The question of export has been pressed from time to time, but as a 'Planting Journal' mentioned in its issue of the 28th March, very possibly people have been crying "Wolf" a little too early. But the matter is under investigation and if Government feels that there is no possibility of rubber being taken up, naturally they would allow exports. This, Government are aware, as the hon. Member pointed out, would result in a serious loss to the producers.

Shri Punnoose: May I know why it has become necessary to permit this export when rubber is in short supply to meet India's requirements?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The statement in the latter part of the question is correct. Even according to present production estimates, we shall be short of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons, or a little more perhaps, of our needs

provided last year's consumption figures are maintained. But there seems to be some kind of lag between production and the purchase by manufacturers. What we are trying to do is to bridge the gap. And if we are successful no exports will be necessary. But if we are not successful, naturally, exports must be allowed of some quantities

Shri Punnoose: Is it a fact that the Firestone and Dunlop Companies are deliberately refusing to purchase rubber?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: So far as Dunlops' purchases are concerned they are slightly more than normal. I am getting weekly figures of purchases. So far as Firestones' purchases are concerned they are slightly below normal. I understand in Firestones they have had a strike and that is the main reason why they are not able to increase their off-take of rubber.

MICA INDUSTRY

*1179. **Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of mica exported in 1952;

(b) the reason of heavy slump in mica industry; and

(c) the step taken by the Government of India to improve the condition of the industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 3.06,976 Cwts. worth Rs. 9,58,52,568.

(b) There is no evidence of real slump in the mica industry. Leaving out 1951-52, the period of stock-piling when there was an unusual rush to obtain supplies, the overall level of exports has been fairly well-maintained.

With the disappearance of a sellers' market, there is no doubt a demand from buyers that supplies should be made according to higher standards of quality.

(c) For stabilising the industry, Government have been advised that the quantity for export should be improved by adopting a universal standard for grading mica. Action is being taken in the direction. Other suggestions include:—

(1) Creation of a central organisation for taking over export operations;

(2) Imposition of a ban on export of scrap mica; and

(3) Promotion of research work to encourage use of mica in the country. These suggestions are at present being examined.

Shri G. P. Sinha: What is the total accumulated stock of mica in 1952?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have got only the export figures, not of accumulations.

Shri N. P. Sinha: In view of the fact that now we are going to have enough electricity in the D. V. C. area do Government propose to examine the possibilities of consuming much more mica in India rather than depending on exports alone?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is rather difficult for me with my limited understanding to bridge the gap between the first part and the second part of the question. I think the hon. Member has in mind whether Government have any proposals of manufacturing electrical equipment which would consume a portion of the mica produced. I think there is some such proposal before Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the fact that Travancore-Cochin State is the principal source for phlogopite mica and in view of the fact that the Mica Enquiry Committee has reported that this industry has great possibilities, may I know whether Government has taken any steps to resurrect this industry in the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know to what extent Brazilian mica and Madagascar mica compete with Indian mica in foreign countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment I think the competition is not of any considerably violent character.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Has there been any increase in the domestic consumption as a result of the development of shipbuilding and electrical instruments manufacture?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I think the increased activity in regard to electrical machinery manufacturing is not up to the level necessary to show any improvement in domestic consumption.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know what attempts have been made by the Government of India to utilise the mica produced in this country for local consumption?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question was answered before.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It was asked and answered.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there was any decline in the quantity of mica exported during 1952 as compared to the 1951 exports and, if so, to what extent?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position, as I have stated, is that except for the stock-piling years the quantity of export is more or less normal. I think in 1950-51 and 1951-52 which were the stock-piling years, the figures were 4 lakh and odd cwts. in 1950-51 and a similar quantity in 1951-52; that is for the eight months from April to December of 1951-52 it was 2,19,000 cwts. And I think that during 1952 we shall exceed the figure of export for the normal year, namely 1949-50, which was 2,97,000 cwts.

Shri Punnoose: The Mica Enquiry Committee Report says that mica mining in Travancore has been conducted off and on for the last fifty years. May I know whether any step has been taken by Government to put it on permanent and steady basis?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there was any fall in the price of mica in 1952?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir, there has been.

Shri Raghavaiah: Since the imposition of a ban on the export of scrap mica is one of the recommendations of the Mica Enquiry Committee, may I know whether Government is convinced that the export of scrap mica has been standing in the way of getting better prices for exports of sheet mica?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This matter, as I said, is under consideration. Government have not been convinced one way or the other yet.

ALLOTMENT TO BIHAR FOR UPLIFT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

*1180. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted to the State of Bihar for the uplift of Backward Classes during the Plan period;

(b) the amount spent so far; and

(c) the item under which the amount has been spent?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The Government of Bihar have received Central grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) as follows:—

1951-52	Rs. 15 lakhs.
1952-53	Rs. 18 lakhs.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the number of schools and hostels opened under the Plan up till now in Bihar?

Shri Hathi: I have not got the details thereof.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Under the Plan is there any welfare scheme for the backward classes other than scheduled tribes?

Shri Hathi: As regards the backward classes I may invite the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that under article 340 of the Constitution a Commission has been appointed. As to what steps should be taken in respect of the classes which are socially and educationally backward the Commission will make recommendations, and the grants-in-aid to be given by the Centre will depend upon those recommendations.

SHIP-BUILDING AT VISHAKHAPATNAM

*1181. **Shri Altekar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state what parts of the ships built at Vishakhapatnam are manufactured in India and whether any parts are required to be imported from foreign countries?

(b) What time will it take to manufacture in India, the parts that are now imported from foreign countries?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The hull, superstructure, deck and cabins, which constitute about 60 per cent. of a ship, are constructed at Visakhapatnam. Materials like electrical fittings, copper

pipes and steam fittings together with all the prime and auxiliary machinery, which constitute the remaining 40 per cent. or so, are imported mostly from the U.K.

(b) This matter is receiving Government's attention and it is hoped that it will be possible gradually to manufacture such items in the country. This is however a long-term problem which requires careful planning consistent with the resources, both financial and technical, of the country. It is not possible to say at this stage by what time we can become entirely self-sufficient.

Shri Altekar: May I know what is the value of the 40 per cent. parts that are imported from foreign countries and the value of the 60 per cent. manufactured in this country?

Shri K. C. Reddy: For each ship approximate cost of foreign materials imported from U.K. is about Rs. 20,50,000, of foreign materials purchased in India is Rs. 1,53,943 approximately and indigenous materials, Rs. 14,88,384.

Shri Altekar: May I know whether any raw materials have to be imported, like wood?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Some special type of timber is imported.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know the value of timber imported yearly for this purpose and may I also know whether Government have taken steps to utilise Indian timber?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Government have taken steps to utilise local timber to the extent possible. As I was answering another supplementary question, some special kind of timber is required and it has to be imported. I cannot give you the overall figures of the cost of the timber that is imported but I can give the figures for each ship. For each ship of about 8,000 d.w.t. timber is imported as follows:

Oregon pine timber about Rs. 60,000 worth.

Burma teak timber about Rs. 90,000 worth.

Dr. Jaisoorya: I hope I am not mistaken, but I heard the words "auxiliary machinery". Are engines and boilers also manufactured in this country?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Engines and boilers are not manufactured at present.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know whether there is any scheme to manufacture engines in India and if so, at what time?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The company has just received a report from the French Experts whom we have engaged, and after the report is carefully examined, the Government will consider the matter.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the marine engines for these ships are imported from some specialised firms, or generally it is left to the companies to purchase them from wherever they can.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Of course, it has to be presumed that they are imported from the specialists in the line and not from any and everyone.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is there any fixed or stable contract with certain specified foreign concerns in U.K.?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am sorry I cannot give the information at present.

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that Burma teak is being imported for the manufacture of ships. May I know whether local teak is unsuitable for this purpose?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is obvious.

Shri P. T. Chacko: What is the basis on which Government consider that Burma teak timber is of a special variety, while the Indian, especially the Malabar teak timber is superior to that of Burma teak timber?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whose opinion is to prevail?

Shri P. T. Chacko: I want to know the basis.

Housing Board and Central Housing Fund

*1182. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether Government are considering the question of setting up a Housing Board in the near future?

(b) Have they set apart any funds for the Central Housing Fund during 1953-54?

(c) If so, what is the amount?

(d) If not, when do Government propose to move in the matter?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The question has been considered and at present there does not appear to be a necessity for a Central Housing Board.

(b) to (d). Subject to the financial condition of Government permitting, it is the intention to work up to the Planning Commission's programme in the matter of Housing. No Central Housing Fund as such has however been established, but for the current financial year a budget provision exists for Rs. 9.84 crores on housing.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: May I know whether this Board is constituted under any Act or under executive authority?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have said that at present there does not appear to be any necessity for a Central Housing Board. Therefore the question whether its constitution is under a Central Act or a State Act does not arise.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: In what way the Central Housing Board will be different from the National Building Organisation?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The Central Housing Board was contemplated to be in overall charge for executing the housing projects, and as at present advised, it is felt that the present arrangement of administering it by the Ministry is a better arrangement and costs less.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether any Regional Boards have been constituted in various States and in this direction whether any scheme is drawn up to provide funds for these Boards?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The Housing Boards do exist in a number of States and I know of four States in which these Housing Boards exist; the responsibility of executing the housing projects, where such Boards exist, is generally passed on by the State Governments to those Housing Boards; in other States it is the State Government who undertake the execution of those housing projects.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether Government is aware that a non-official all-India Housing Society has been set up? If so, how is the Government going to help it?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Government is aware that such a Society has been set up and the Society has not yet formulated any definite plan and it is not yet clear to the Government as to the manner in which they can help that Central organisation.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether this amount will lapse if not utilised before the end of the current year or it can be carried over so that it can be utilised in the coming year?

Sardar Swaran Singh: In all probability it will be utilised during the current year and if any part is unspent, it will not lapse.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से जान सकता हूं कि सैंट्रल हाउसिंग फ़ंड को मुकर्रर करने के लिये सरकार विचार करेगी ?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is hardly necessary.

PROGRESS AT HIRAKUD

*1183. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that progress at Hirakud has been considerably retarded and the results as such are quite below expectation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or are likely to take for making uniform progress at Hirakud?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir. The Progress at Hirakud achieved at the end of last working season is being maintained.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

With your permission, I may add a word that in order to ensure that the work is progressing satisfactorily, it has been arranged that after every working season, the target for the next working season will be fixed and divided into monthly periods so that it may be possible to judge and verify every month whether the work is progressing satisfactorily or not.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know when the main dam is expected to be completed?

Shri Hathi: 1955-56.

Shri L. J. Singh: When will the major portion of the canals in Sambalpur District be ready to receive the life-giving water?

Shri Hathi: I think in 1955-56.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the work of resettlement of those persons who would be displaced on account of the submergence of the reservoir area is not proceeding last enough, and if so, why?

Shri Hathi: I will enquire into that matter.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the targets for earth and concrete work set by Dr. Savage in his report in 1948 have been maintained so far?

Shri Hathi: I think they have been maintained. I am not sure about it.

Shri T. N. Singh: The Minister gave the impression that the progress made is according to the schedule at Hirakud. Is it correct to say that?

Shri Hathi: Yes, Sir. What impression the hon. Member might have gathered, I do not know. But, what I have said is that the progress has been maintained as it was in the last season.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मंथली प्रोग्रेस रिपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट के पास आती है?

Shri Hathi: As I said, the report does come; but that is to show how many cubic yards, etc., of work have been executed. In order to check this up actually, it has been decided that they should be defined by charts.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that the course of the construction of this dam is filled with improper maintenance of accounts, wastage of imported materials, and other irregularities?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was answered at length.

Shri Raghavaiah: This was not answered. My question relates particularly to this aspect: that the course of the construction of this dam was filled with all varieties of improper edministration, like wastage of materials, improper maintenance of accounts, etc., as a result of which ..

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not the time for discussion. On the discussion of the Hirakud Report the hon. Minister for Planning took an hour and went explaining item after item. This is not possible now.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether it was programmed to construct the subsidiary dam in 1953 and to raise at least 40 feet of the main dam by 1953? Has that been done?

Shri Hathi: That was as envisaged in 1947. Subsequently the programme was changed and I am saying from the revised programme of 1951.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know whether the subsidiary dam and the unfinished bridge have been given up for good or whether they are going to be taken up in the near future?

Shri Hathi: They are postponed for the time being.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know the amount of concrete that is being laid daily nowadays?

Shri Hathi: I have no information.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know from the Minister of Planning whether there was at all any planning to avoid the gross mismanagement by the officers as found in the report of the Public Accounts Committee?

Shri Hathi: Will the hon. Member please repeat the question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whether any steps are taken by the Government to avoid all the irregularities disclosed in the report of the Public Accounts Committee?

Shri Hathi: Definitely; the report is being studied.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The report is being studied for the purpose of taking proper action. Next question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: How long to study?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Coir Industry

***1184. Shri Achuthan:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how the slump position in the coir industry in Travancore-Cochin now stands?

(b) What are the steps taken by Government to ease the crisis in the industry?

(c) For what amounts have the Central and State Governments purchased coir products in 1952-53 for Government purposes?

(d) What is the stock position of coir products in the first quarter of 1953?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Since June 1952, there has been a gradual increase in exports of coir products. This indicates some improvement in the position.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 21.]

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri Achuthan: May I know what was the decrease in export due to the slump in money value?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In 1951, the exports were for Rs. 11,58,64,000. In 1952, the figure was Rs. 7,35,71,000.

Shri Achuthan: It is said in the statement that the Trade representatives in the coir importing countries have been requested to help. How far have they succeeded by taking more?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: These Trade agreements have been going on for a period of time. It has not been sible to assess the results arising out of it exactly. There has been a slight improvement during the last January and February: certainly in January. We cannot say whether this is due to these people buying as per Trade agreements. We have not been able to allocate definitely whether anything has resulted from these Trade agreements.

Shri Achuthan: How many men have been thrown out of employment on account of the slump, roughly?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is a figure that has never been correctly assessed.

Shri Achuthan: Even roughly have Government no idea?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have had no information in that regard.

Shri Punnoose: May I know what percentage of the factories are in production now and how many indigenous, Indian, factories are at present closed down?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In regard to the present position, we have asked for a report from the Travancore-Cochin Government. We are awaiting the report.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether the Government are prepared to correct their impression that there is a community project at Trivandrum. There is none.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is another matter.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether the Government are aware that the two community projects opened in the Travancore-Cochin State are at least more than 100 miles away from the centres affected by the coir crisis, and that they cannot give relief to the unemployed workers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is quite possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He does not know. We will go to Hirakud again.

Shri V. P. Nayar: One question, Sir. It is a vital matter. May I know whether the Government have taken any steps to conduct a survey with special details of the increasing starvation and incidence of disease consequent on the crisis in coir industry in the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We depend very largely for information of this detailed type on the State Government. The information furnished to us so far does not indicate these details which the hon. Member has in mind.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Punnoose: One question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed so many questions.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: This is an important matter.

Shri Punnoose: It is from my constituency. I must have an opportunity.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member can ask for a half-hour discussion. There are three more questions. Next question.

Financial Control of Chief Engineer, Hirakud Project

*1185. **Pandit Bingaraj Misra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power

be pleased to state whether the Accounting System and Financial Control which was prevalent in the Hirakud Dam Project has been suitably modified so as to invest the Chief Engineer thereof, with powers similar to those enjoyed by the Chief Engineer of the Bhakra-Nangal Project, as recommended by the Advisory Committee in its Report of March 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the statement made by the Minister of Irrigation and Power in the House on the 27th March, 1953 while announcing the decisions taken by Government on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee, in their Sixth Report. As stated by him, the Comptroller and Auditor-General will be visiting Hirakud shortly for an on-the-spot study of the working of the Accounting System at Hirakud and his advice after such study will be accepted and given effect to by Government.

Pandit Lingaraj Misra: In view of the serious adverse remarks made by the Public Accounts Committee regarding the irregularities in expenditure in Hirakud, do Government propose to liberalise the system of financial control as suggested by the Advisory Committee?

Shri Hathi: As I just now said, the matter is left to the Comptroller and Auditor-General and his advice will be accepted by the Government.

Shri T. N. Singh: The statement just now made is slightly misleading if read with the previous answer. I want to know this. So far as the 16 general recommendations of the PAC are concerned, they having been accepted, the Auditor-General has to go into other matters left open.

Shri Hathi: I am sorry if there has been any misleading impression. All the 16 recommendations have been accepted. There is no doubt about that.

MANUFACTURE OF OYSTER SHELL BUTTONS

***1187. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the areas where the industry to produce buttons from oyster shells exists in the country; and

(b) the extent to which the requirement of such buttons is met by the local production and the steps, if any, taken to develop the same to enable the industry to meet the entire requirement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Bihar State, mostly in Champaran district.

(b) Reliable estimate of requirement and production of oyster shells buttons is not available. The Industry is looked after by the Government of Bihar.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is only in Bihar that oyster shell industry is carried on?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have got information only regarding Bihar.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government are aware that oysters generally mean only marine lamellibranchs?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I can take that information from the hon. Member.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: How many oyster shell concerns are working at present in Bihar? What is their annual production capacity?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This industry is under Tariff protection up to 31st December of this year. At the time of the enquiry in 1950, the Director of Industries, Bihar, informed the Tariff Board that there were about 50 factories in Bihar engaged in the production of buttons from oyster shells.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Is it a fact that we are still importing large quantities of these buttons from Japan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think so.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Are these cottage industries or is there any mill?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think there could be any mill in this matter.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The hon. Minister just now said, 'I do not know whether we import from Japan'. May I know whether it is a fact that we used to import these buttons from Japan, and from when that import has been stopped?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Quite some time ago; I think since the beginning of the war.

SILK CLOTH AND RAW SILK

*1188. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the requirements for silk cloth and raw silk of this country are met from local production;

(b) the countries from which the balance of requirement is imported, and

(c) the chief silk producing areas in the country and the steps taken on behalf of the Central Government including the grant of loan and subsidies, if any, to make the country self-sufficient in respect of its silk requirements?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 22]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SUPPLY OF COAL TO PAKISTAN

*1186. **Shri Amjad Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of rail-borne coal which India has to supply to Pakistan under the Indo-Pakistan trade talks which concluded on the 19th March 1953?

(b) What amount of surcharge has India to forego with respect to coal supplied to Pakistan?

(c) What percentage of the total output of Indian coal will thus be supplied to Pakistan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) About 70,000 tons per month. Efforts will, however, be made to step it up by another 10,000 tons per month.

(b) On the basis of prices now agreed, and the quantities of export envisaged India's earnings will diminish by about Rs. 9 lakhs a month.

(c) About 3 per cent.

DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN MYSORE

894. **Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure made so far on different items of development in Mysore State under the Five Year Plan; and

(b) the progress made so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Information from the Government of Mysore is awaited. When it is received, it will be placed on the Table of the House.

FOREIGN FILMS

895. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state how many foreign films and from which countries were exhibited in India during 1947—1952 year-wise and country-wise?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): No record is kept of the number of foreign films exhibited in the country. Information about the number of foreign films certified for public exhibition since 15th January 1951, when the Central Board of Film Censors was set up, has already been laid on the Table of the House in reply to part (b) of Starred Question No. 13 in the Council of States by Sri B. Rath on 24th November, 1952. A copy of the reply given earlier is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 23.]

TRAINING OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN POLYTECHNIC, NILOKHERI

896. { **Sardar Hukam Singh:** / **Shri Ajit Singh:**

(a) Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state the number of displaced persons trained in the Polytechnic of Nilokheri since its inception?

(b) What is the number under training at present?

(c) What crafts are taught under this scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) 2920.

(b) 233.

(c) The following crafts are taught under this scheme:—

Overseers (Electrical and Mechanical).

Fitting (General Mechanic).

Blacksmithy.

Pattern Making.

Sheet Metal Workers.

Foundry.

Electricians.

Machinist and Turner.

Internal Combustion Engine Mechanics.

Radio Mechanic.

Mechanical Draftsman.

Printing Press.

Commercial Artists.

Tractor Mechanic.

PETROLEUM IMPORT

897. Shri G. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state the annual import of petroleum into India?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Imports of Petroleum Products into India

(Quantities in million Gallons.)

Product	*1947-48*	*1948-49*	*1949-50*
Aviation Spirit	21	15·3	19·7
Motor Spirit	87·6	107·1	157·6
Kerosine	177·8	104·6	198·8
Fuel Oil	265	247	338·3
Jute Batching Oil	15	8	17·8

Product	*1950-51*	*1951-52*
Aviation Spirit	24.4	26
Motor Spirit	169.6	229·4
Kerosine	229.3	253·5
Fuel Oils	332.6	366.4
Jute Batching Oil	13.7	14.6

केन्द्रीय एन्फोर्समेंट शाखा द्वारा जांच

८९८. श्री जांगड़े : क्या वाणिज्य तथाउद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में आज तक काले बाजार के लिये, अत्यावश्यक संभरण (अस्थायी शक्ति) अधिनियम के अधीन या अन्य विधियों के अधीन केन्द्रीय एन्फोर्समेंट शाखा या अन्य अभिकरणों के द्वारा कितने मामलों में जांच की गई लोगों का चालान किया गया या उन पर मुकदमे चलाये गये ; और

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में ऐसा कोई मामला हुआ है जिसके लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार को हस्तक्षेप करके जांच, चालान या अन्य कार्यवाही करनी पड़ी ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 24.]

(b) No, Sir. There was, however, a case in which the Director of Enforcement assisted the State authorities in conducting the investigation.

मध्य प्रदेश में टसर के धागे और वस्त्र का उत्पादन

८९९. श्री जांगड़े : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में कौसा उर्फ टसर के धागे और वस्त्र के उत्पादन के आंकड़े मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से जानने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कार्यवाही की है या करेगी ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने यह पता लगाने के लिये कार्यवाही की है या करेंगी कि कौसा उर्फ टसर के वस्त्र बनाने का उद्योग घरेलू उद्योग है या इसमें कला का भी प्रयोग किया जा सकता है ; और

(ग) प्रति वर्ष टसर वस्त्र का उत्पादन ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The production of Tasar silk and Tasar cloth in Madhya Pradesh is estimated at 140,000 lbs. and 840,000 yards respectively per year.

(b) Tasar silk cloth manufacturing industry is a cottage industry and there is no scope at present for the use of machinery unless the quality and quantity of yarn is improved.

(c) About one and a half million yards.

चमड़ा तथा खालें आयात

९००. सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सन् १९५२ में कितना चमड़ा तथा खालें भारत में आयात हुईं ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): 19,58,039 Nos. of hides and skins estimated to weigh about 4,400 tons were imported into India during 1952.

Import and Export of Medicines

901. Shri Lakshman Singh Charak: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the main items of medicines imported from U.S.A. and U.K. in 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(b) What was the value and quantity of these medicines imported from these countries in the same period?

(c) What are the main medicines exported from India during the period, their quantity and value?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). Three statements are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 25.]

Cotton goods imports from U.S.A

902. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total value (in rupees) of cotton goods imported from U.S.A. during the period 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Value of cotton manufactures imported from U.S.A.:—

Year	*Value.*
1950-51.	Rs. 24,78,,057.
1951-52.	Rs. 34,21,733.

These manufactures are mainly cotton twist and yarn sewing thread, certain types of dyed and printed piecegoods such as organdie, velvet and velveteens etc., blankets.

Bharat Sewak Samaj

903. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) the total membership of Bharat Sewak Samaj up to the end of February 1953; and

(b) the percentage of official membership in the Bharat Sewak Samaj?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The Bharat Sewak Samaj is a private voluntary organisation on the composition and working of which the Government have no detailed information. They have now asked for information as regards the number and percentage of officials who are members of the Samaj and will place it on the Table of the House.

Salt

904. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the *per capita* consumption of common salt in India;

(b) the total output of common salt in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(c) when the country is expected to be self-sufficient with respect to this commodity;

(d) the estimated production of common salt in the year 1953; and

(e) whether it has been selling at reasonable prices throughout the country and whether attempt has been made to improve its quality also?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The *per capita* consumption is estimated at about 14 lbs. per annum in all the States, except in Bombay and Madras (including Travancore-Cochin State), where it is estimated at 12·7 and 20 lbs. respectively.

(b) The total production of salt during 1950, 1951 and 1952 was as follows:—

1950	713 lakh maunds.
1951	744 lakh maunds.
1952	768 lakh maunds.

(c) The country has been self-sufficient in salt since 1951.

(d) The estimated production of salt during the year 1953 is about 800 lakh maunds.

(e) Prices remained at reasonable levels throughout 1952. Attention is being paid continuously to the improvement of quality, and the minimum standard of sodium chloride content fixed for edible salt is being raised gradually from year to year.

STORES FOR ROAD TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD

905. Shri Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 51 asked on the 5th November, 1952 regarding stores for Road Transport Department, Hyderabad and state:

(a) the value of stores received since then against the indents approximating to Rs. 20 lacs placed by the Road Transport Department, Hyderabad State;

(b) whether any periodical report from the Director-General, India Store Department, London has been received by Government;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the same;

(d) whether there is any likelihood of the supplies being made in full in the near future; and

(e) the names of the firms against which these indents have been placed?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Since November, 1952 additional stores of the value of Rs. 2 lakhs approximately have been shipped from London against the indents for spares and accessories placed by the Road Transport Department, Hyderabad. Information regarding the exact extent to which these stores have actually been received by the Road Transport Department, Hyderabad has not been reported.

(b) and (c). The report for the period ending 31st March, has been posted but has not yet been received.

(d) It is expected that all the supplies will be completed before the end of 1953 if no further difficulties are experienced by the contractors in getting raw materials, etc.

(e) A statement giving the names of the contractors is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 26.]

All the spares ordered are proprietory articles.

COMMITTEES UNDER INDIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTION

906. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of Committees and Sub-Committees functioning under the Indian Standards institution;

(b) on how many of these Committees and Sub-Committees the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., have been given representation; and

(c) what is the number of Indians representing the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., on these Committees and Sub-Committees?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 83 Committees and 283 Sub-Committees (including Panels) are at present functioning under the Indian Standards Institution. A list giving their names is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library—See No. S-31/53.*]

(b) 8 Committees and 14 Sub-Committees.

(c) One.

TAJ MODEL MANUFACTURE

907. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to a supplementary to Starred Question No. 980 asked on the 25th March, 1953 and state the total number of families engaged in the Taj Model Manufacturing Industry in Agra?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The information is being collected and wlil be laid on the Table of the House.

भारतीय अयस्क का निर्यात

९०८. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या १९५१-५२ में १०.४१ करोड़ रुपये के मूल्य का ९,३५,०४२ टन अयस्क निर्यात किया गया और १९५२-५३ के प्रथम आठ मास में १७.१३ करोड़ रुपये के मूल्य का १४,३४,६३० टन अयस्क निर्यात किया गया और यदि ऐसा है तो उस वर्ष के शेष चार मासों में कितना अयस्क निर्यात हुआ ; और

(ख) क्या यह तथ्य है कि भारत का दो तिहाई अयस्क संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका आयात करता है और इस वर्ष उस देश को निर्यात की मात्रा गत वर्ष से दुगनी हो गई है ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The relevant statistics of export of ores are as follows:—

Year	Quantity (000 Tons)	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)
1951-52	1528·6	1815
1952-53		
(a) April-November	1434·6	1713
(b) December-Feb.	788·1	789
March	Figures not available at present.	

(b) No.

THE Dated 25.11.251.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 6th April, 1953

The House met at Two of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

3 P.M.

PATIALA AND EAST PUNJAB STATES UNION LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Union to make laws.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to confer on the President the power of the legislature of the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Union to make laws."

The motion was adopted.

Dr. Katju: I introduce the Bill.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up discussion of Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Finance.

DEMAND NO. 26—MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,33,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 27—CUSTOMS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,09,37,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Customs'."

DEMAND NO. 28—UNION EXCISE DUTIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,98,91,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Union Excise Duties'."

DEMAND NO. 29—TAXES ON INCOME INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,12,43,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax'."

DEMAND NO. 30—OPIUM

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,34,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Opium'."

DEMAND No. 31—STAMPS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,09,54,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Stamps'."

DEMAND No. 32—PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, DEPARTMENTS, ETC. ON ACCOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AGENCY SUBJECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF TREASURIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Payments to other Governments, Departments, etc. on account of the Administration of Agency Subjects and Management of Treasuries'."

DEMAND No. 33—AUDIT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,48,94,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Audit'."

DEMAND No. 34—CURRENCY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,65,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Currency'."

DEMAND No. 35—MINT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 88,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Mint'."

DEMAND No. 36—TERRITORIAL AND POLITICAL PENSIONS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Territorial and Political Pensions'."

DEMAND No. 37—SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,76,19,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

DEMAND No. 39—GRANTS-IN-AID TO STATES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,72,42,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to States'."

DEMAND No. 40—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,61,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Union and State Governments'."

DEMAND No. 41—EXTRAORDINARY PAYMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,01,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges

which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Extraordinary Payments'."

DEMAND No. 42—PRE-PARTITION PAYMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,78,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Pre-partition Payments'."

DEMAND No. 116—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON THE INDIA SECURITY PRESS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on the India Security Press'."

DEMAND No. 117—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CURRENCY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,21,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Currency'."

DEMAND No. 118—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MINTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Mints'."

DEMAND No. 119—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 95,15,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Commuted Value of Pensions'."

DEMAND No. 120—PAYMENTS TO RETRENCHED PERSONNEL

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Payments to Retrenched Personnel'."

DEMAND No. 121—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,51,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND No. 122—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,49,60,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government'."

In addition to these Demands discussion will also proceed on Demand No. 38 re; Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance, which was moved on the 27th March, 1953 in connection with discussion on Planning.

Leaders of Groups and unattached Members may hand over the Nos. of those cut motions which they select, to the Secretary.

The intention of asking Members to give intimation to Secretary regarding the cut motions that they wish to move is that the notices so far as the Groups are concerned should be on behalf of the Groups. The whole idea of giving intimation is defeated if the selected cut motions are not intimated through the Leader or the Deputy Leader or the Whip of the Group. Of course, unattached Members can give intimation separately to Secretary about the cut motions they propose to move.

Necessity for continuing food subsidy to Travancore-Cochin

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair (Quilon cum Mavelikkara): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity for granting additional aid to Travancore-Cochin

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Additional aid to improve economic conditions of Scheduled Castes

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Problems of displaced banks from West Pakistan

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Economy in administration

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Loan taken from a foreign country and interest paid thereon

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Exchange of Pakistan securities and shares held by Indian nationals

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Levy of excise duty on tobacco on standing crops

Shri R. N. S. Deo (Kalahandi-Bolangir): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to bring about redistribution of national income through public finance

Shri Nanadas (Ongole—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Planned expenditure for maintaining full employment and social security

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Undesirability of inviting two foreign financial experts to be on the Taxation Enquiry Committee

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Low purchasing power of industrial worker and tiller of the soil due to high taxation system of the Government

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Upgrading of cities according to population for computing compensatory and house-rent allowances to Government employees from 1st October, 1952 as against 1st April, 1951

Shri Vittal Rao (Khammam): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide employees of Mint and Security Press, Hyderabad Government with suitable alternate jobs consequent upon demonetisation of Hali Sicca currency

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of reducing taxes on consumption

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Customs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Abolition of excise duty on tobacco grown and conditioned in Koraput district of Orissa

Shri P. Subba Rao (Nowrangpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Manner of collection and distribution to States

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Difficulties of small growers of backward classes by levy of excise duties on tobacco on standing crops

Shri R. N. S. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Union Excise Duties' be reduced by Rs 100."

Working of Income Tax Department and evasion of taxes specially by British concerns

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Taxes on Income including Corporation tax' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of computing allowances to managing agents on personal basis and not on company basis

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Taxes on Income including Corporation tax' be reduced by Rs. Rs. 100."

Arrangements for better auditing specially cost-accounting of Government concerns and industrial undertakings

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Audit' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to stop entry into and transmission out of the country of foreign capital and profit

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Currency' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Steps to tax pensions payable to Rulers of former Indian States

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Territorial and Political Pensions' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide for pensions to political sufferers

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Territorial and Political Pensions' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of discontinuing forthwith payment of superannuation allowances and pensions in England

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Community Development Projects and right of American representative in them

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of appointing a Special Commission of Enquiry regarding extent of foreign capital in the country

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Economy Merger of Himachal Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh, Ajmer and Bhopal with Punjab, Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat respectively

Shri P. Subba Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Grants-in-aid to States' be reduced by Rs. 4,87,00,000.

Improper distribution of grants

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Grants-in-aid to States' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Serious famine situation in districts of Ramnad, Coimbatore, South and North Arcots, Malabar and Tanjore of Madras State and need to grant aid from Centre

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Financing of industrial housing schemes

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequate provision to landless workers

Shri K. K. Bassu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Utilisation of youth camps and labour services for party purposes

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequate funds provided for welfare of backward classes

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Meagre provision for Industrial Housing Scheme

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Extraordinary Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Problem of recoveries of funds belonging to displaced banks from West Pakistan

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Pre-partition Payments' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Structural defect in Alipore Mint and Inadequate housing accommodation for labour and their amenities

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Mints' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy of further payment of commuted value of pension specially in England

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Commuted Value of Pensions' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequate provision for pension to retrenched persons specially ministerial staff and labour

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Payments to Retrenched Personnel' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Grant to community projects and Colombo Plan and policy underlying therein

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy underlying advancing loans for irrigation purposes

Shri R. N. S. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of co-ordinated and integrated development plan before granting loans to States

Shri R. N. S. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequate advances made for cultivators and other nation building purpose

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The cut motions are placed before the House.

Shri Damodara Menon (Kozhikode): My cut motion refers to economy in

administration. This matter has been often discussed on the floor of the House, but the Finance Minister himself has stated that he is not tired of these criticisms, and we on this side are also not tired of offering these criticisms to him.

In his Budget speech of May last, the Finance Minister stated that constant watch for economy was being carried on by his Ministry, and he also stated that a team of officers were looking into the expenditure of the various Ministries of the Government of India, and they were suggesting savings. This year, in reply to the general debate, he stated that the labours of these officers were continuing, and he elaborated an argument to show that, after all very little saving could be effected. He said out of an expenditure on the civil side of nearly Rs. 239 crores, what may be termed as coming within the limits of reduction would be to the tune of only Rs. 100 crores, and even there, only about Rs. 40 crores are capable of reduction. He went on further to state that only about five per cent. in this Rs. 40 crores can really be thought of as being capable of reduction. In my own opinion, he is taking a very conservative view of this matter. He is not evidently thinking in terms of making any radical reduction in, say, the privy purses and also the salaries of officers and similar expenditure.

When I am on this point, I want to refer to a recommendation made by the Madras Government to the Central Government. The Madras Finance Minister stated in his budget speech that a salary cut of ten per cent. of officers of the Government of Madras was being considered by them, and they have made a recommendation to the Central Government that this cut may be applied also to the officers of the Central Government who are serving in the Madras State. I am told that this matter has been under the consideration of the Government for a considerable time. I want the Finance Minister to state what decision has been taken in this matter.

The Finance Minister stated that the reductions that the team of officers have recommended are under the consideration of the Government. He did not specifically state, except in rather general terms, what was the precise amount that could be saved by accepting the recommendations of this team. He did not even tell us what Ministries are likely to be affected, in what precise manner the cut or saving is to be effected, and the amount. These facts, I hope, he will place before the House. I hope he will also let us know the recommendations of this team so that we may judge as to whether these recommendations are really effective in character.

The Finance Minister had also something to say about the financial control exercised by his Ministry. Last year, when this Ministry's Demands were being discussed, in his reply he stated —he rather expressed surprise—that there is a belief that there is no control exercised by his Ministry. There is no such belief. We do not believe that there is no control at all. Our complaint is that the control exercised is not adequate or effective. This opinion is now strengthened by the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee in respect of the Hirakud Project. I would refer to one sentence which that report contains. It says:

> "The Ministry of Finance must accept their share of responsibility for the delay in putting on the ground at Hirakud the necessary arrangements for financial control."

So, it is not the opinion of a few Members. It is also the opinion of the Public Accounts Committee which is presided over by a responsible Member of the Congress Party. I would, therefore, request the Government to exercise greater vigilance, especially in the Finance Ministry, in respect of financial control. The Auditor-General himself has stated that there is room for improvement in the accounting system of the Government.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In fact, the report of the Finance Ministry at page 30 refers to it:

> "The Comptroller and Auditor-General has been feeling for some time past that the existing accounting system of the Union and State Governments needs overhaul and reform as this has proved cumbersome, outmoded, and, especially since the new Constitution, inadequate."

Therefore, there is a general belief that the accounting system should be improved, and I want to know what steps the Government are taking in this particular direction.

The second cut motion which I have tabled refers to the nationalisation of banks and insurance. This is a matter in which the Government and also the Finance Minister hold different views from ours. It is often taken to be a suggestion which has a left leaning and the Finance Minister being a man of the right.....

Shri K. K. Basu: Ultra-right.

Shri Damodara Menon:.....also looks at this suggestion with some suspicion, or rather, he is not in a mood to accept it. For, we have always found that when suggestions which have leftist tendencies are made and proposals are placed before the Government, the leaders of the ruling Party express general agreement with us, but in the matter of implementing them, they find difficulty. They cannot go fast enough.

Shri K. K. Basu: They do not want to.

Shri Damodara Menon: Now, we are planning for a welfare State and our path to progress must really lie on the left direction. In this matter, I would suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to follow the rule of the road. There is some paradox in the rule of the road. If you go left, you go right. If you go right, you go wrong. So in the matter of nationalisation of some of the key industries, and also banking and insurance, if we follow the rule of the road, probably in our progress we will be in the right direction and make quicker progress.

In the report of the Ministry of Finance, mention has been made of the Bill that has been introduced in the House for amending the Reserve Bank of India Act. The purpose of this amending Bill is to make rural credit possible, and also to help the cottage industries with financial help. All this shows that in the realm of banking greater Government control is necessary. If that be so, why not we accept this proposition and nationalise all banks?

In the case of insurance also, this report mentions that in the year 1952-53, three more insurance companies have been brought under control, and administrators have been appointed, in the case of five more insurance companies. This brings the total number to about eight. That shows that in the field of insurance also, Government are feeling that all is not well, and some kind of control or the appointment of administrators is justified. We feel that for our projects more money is required. I am not unaware of the fact that the insurance companies are investing their money in securities. All the same, if we need money for our welfare schemes, for projects intended to generate more electricity or water power, and also other water supply schemes, I feel it would be possible for us to find that from the insurance companies.

In the matter of the housing scheme also, about which questions were asked this afternoon, we want a lot of money to build houses, both in rural and city areas, and if money could be found from the insurance companies, why should not we take up this line, and nationalise them all?

Now, I want to refer to another point, namely foreign investments in this country. I find from the report of the Ministry that about 75 applications were made by foreign companies for starting business here, and the Government have given sanction to about 63 firms to carry on or start business here, and there is a capital investment by them to the tune of about Rs. 5½ crores. The hon. Finance Minister, in his reply to the general debate on the Budget said that there was no real harm in having these foreign companies investing their money here if they did so on our own terms. But I ask: Are they doing so on our own terms? The foreign companies that are coming here are allowed to start business concerns in fields where normally we expect only Indian nationals should be allowed. For example, if we are manufacturing sweets like Cadbury's, or ink, where is the necessity for allowing these foreign concerns to invest their money here? There must be particular fields in which we must make up our minds that foreign capital will not be allowed on any ground whatsoever, and that they will be reserved for Indian nationals only. There are some, of course, who say that foreign capital should not at all be allowed. But I am not saying that. It may be necessary to have foreign capital here But it should not work to the disadvantage of growth of our own industry, as the hon. Minister himself has admitted. But the enunciation of the policy alone will not satisfy us. When it comes to implementation, as I have stated before, we find that foreign capital is being invited into fields where normally one expects only Indian capital. This kind of policy will not help us to maintain an independent status in the economic field.

Then I would like to refer to the question of the exchange of Pakistan securities and shares held by Indian nationals with Indian securities and shares held by Pakistan nationals. I find that the Government have fixed 17th September 1949 as the date, the securities held on or before which would be allowed to be transferred or exchanged. I do not know what particular significance attaches to this date. Supposing a transfer takes place after that date,

where is the harm in allowing that exchange to take place? Government also have stipulated that the transfer or exchange should take place at par and not at the official rate of exchange. I would like the hon. Finance Minister to explain why he thinks that a transfer at the official rate of exchange is not favourable to Indian nationals, and why he should insist on at par and not on official rate of exchange. I also want to know why this exchange should not be allowed in the case of those securities which have been transferred after that date.

I want to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to another fact. I am told that the Government are today considering the increase of the age of retirement of Government servants. It is good for us to profit by experience of age, and nobody doubts that But the hon. Finance Minister himself has stated that the problem of unemployment among the middle class people, especially the college-educated young men, is really intense, and he finds no immediate way of solving the problem. Have the Government considered the question whether the raising of the age of retirement will not unfavourably affect the chances of these young men to get employed in the Government services? Especially at this time, when our development schemes have not grown to the full extent in which they can absorb all our young men and give them more jobs, it will be very wrong on the part of the Government to enhance the age of retirement.

Next I come to the small savings schemes. I find from the report of the Ministry and also the hon. Minister's speech that non-official organisations and social service organisations are being invited to help the Government by collecting more money under this scheme. The Government have also given a kind of encouragement or inducement to the State Governments to help in this scheme, by saying that whatever additional amount they collect will be given to them to further their development schemes. I would suggest to the hon. Finance Minister that this inducement and encouragement should be shown for social service organisations also. If they collect more money for this small savings scheme, the Government may assure them that what they collect at least will be spent for the furtherance of their social service schemes. That would be an inducement for them to work whole-heartedly for the savings scheme.

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay City—North): Last year while speaking on the Demands for Grants of the Finance Ministry, I dealt with the position of India in respect of inflation. We then considered how far India has succeeded in keeping in check inflation, against the backgound of world inflationary conditions. And we came to the conclusion that the success that India had achieved compared very favourably with some of the best managed economies of the world, like those of the U.S.A. and the U.K. But we find today that fears of inflation have been revived with the appearance of the prospect of some deficit financing in the Budget that is before the House.

It is true that deficit finance is one of the direct sources of inflation and we must guard against setting a process in motion that will lead to full-fledged inflation. But on that account must we be nervous? Does every deficit mean necessarily inflation? Is there nothing that we can do so that we can have deficit financing and yet not have inflation? Well, it is possible to do something in that line theoretically. And, what is important, it is also possible for us here and now in the context of our economy to do something to have deficit financing without running the risk of inflation. The first thing we can do is to watch the price level and try to secure a stable price level. By that of course I do not mean—and it certainly cannot be meant—a dead-set price level or a 'Frozen' price level. Fluctuations there of course will be—and perhaps wide fluctuations. But these wide fluctuations must be traceable to causes other than the creation of new money; and in order that the Government should be enabled to hold the line on prices, Government should have powers to impose controls and Government should have the courage to impose them. Of course, our recent history is a clear proof that our Government has both. We in this country know that we have all sorts of controls—economic controls, controls on industries, on commerce, on imports, controls on capital issues, a variety of controls exercised through Government agencies and through the Reserve Bank. This is all to the good, and our first objective, therefore, should be to accept self-discipline and to accept controls and help the Government to hold the line on prices.

We can also usefully examine whether the deficit that we have has arisen out of Government's inability to raise revenues to run its normal functions as a Government or whether this deficit is incurred as a result of the Government's desire to achieve

[Shri V. B. Gandhi]

a higher level of investment than would be possible through taxation or through the voluntary savings of the community. In other words, we have to ascertain whether the deficit is a deficit that is going to create new national assets, that is going to lead to greater production—in other words, that is going to be related to a rising level of national income. It is very clear from all the circumstances connected with the deficit which we are having that our deficit is a deficit that has to do with a higher level of investment which the Government and the people of this country have decided to achieve. Thirdly, we should be frank to ourselves and see whether we are entitled to be surprised at this deficit. We as a nation in our economic policy have accepted a Plan for our economic progress. That Plan envisages a deficit of about Rs. 290 crores—and that is if certain other conditions are fulfilled. And so, therefore, here in this third year of the Plan is a timid step being taken, a first step towards deficit financing of about Rs. 110 crores. And we can only look upon it as a part of the Plan. For us it is not a deficit; it is what the doctor ordered.

Some of us have for long believed that in the Indian economy there are certain inherent features which enable our economy to resist the onset of inflation a little longer than is possible for some other economies. In other words, our economy makes inflation take longer to come to us.

I shall only refer very briefly to a few of the principal features I have in mind. First is, the population of this country. We know that the population of this country has been changing almost always only in one direction, and that is in the direction of an increase. We also know that every increase in population represents an increased demand for the supply of money. Then there is the question of unemployment. It is a generally accepted proposition that those economies which are nearer a condition of full employment are more susceptible to inflation. We have a great leeway yet to make in this respect of unemployment and, therefore, we in that regard are in a better position to resist inflation a little longer. The third feature I have in mind is the supply of money in this country. Now, the supply of money generally consists of two parts: the money and its velocity—velocity of circulation. I shall not go into the details of the process, but I shall just say one thing, that usually the velocity has to do a lot with the total volume of the supply of money in a country. And again, the supply of money can be broken down into two components: the currency and the bank money, that is, Government money, and the bank money, that is, bank deposits. We know that in some countries the proportion of bank money is about three times that of the currency or the Government money. The respective velocities of the two kinds of money are different. In our country the proportion is—bank money or bank deposits are hardly half of the Government money. And, therefore, in this respect of velocity, we have a certain element of advantage. This velocity is what has infinite potentialities of mischief in the way of leading to inflations of a very serious kind which have brought such unfortunate or almost tragic experiences on countries like Austria, Russia or Germany in the nineteen-twenties. As I said, we have, of course, a certain advantage because of the distribution of our population between urban and rural regions and also because of the proportion of bank money to Government money and other similar factors. Considering that there is always present an increased demand for money because of the relative increase of population, and because of our being far from having full employment in the country and also because of the factor of slow velocity of the supply of money, we have certain advantages in undertaking with a little less timidity this first step towards deficit financing. I think it is a sound step economically. It should therefore be possible for our people to regard this deficit financing with an understanding and with an equanimity that befit a nation that has chosen to make progress through planned economy.

Thirdly, may I just point out that really all inflation is not all evil. A gradual inflation in very moderate doses has a certain advantage inasmuch as it reduces the power of accumulated wealth. In a sense, it does the function of our estate duty.

Those of us who have lived through two world wars, know what inflation is. Inflation is something which the poor man fears and which the profiteer prays for. We, in this House, and our Government are determined to see that the poor man will be protected and the prayer of the profiteer will not be answered.

Shri Nanadas: The Congress Government followed the same principle of the British rulers in the provincial finances. The financial structure of the States is the loudest commentary

on the welfare State that is being advertised. People do not find, any difference between the welfare State of the Congress and the police State of the imperialist rulers. The States are charged with all the vital functions of the nation for well-being and prosperity but they are not given the necessary sources of taxation. The Union Government reserves all the elastic sources for itself. Over 60 per cent. of the total revenue collected is taken by the Centre for its Army and huge civil administration. Out of the remaining 40 per cent., the State Governments are maintaining huge police forces to repress the people. The 55 per cent. of the divisible pool of the income-tax and the 40 per cent. of the Union taxes recommended by the Finance Commission is a niggardly amount for the States. It will not solve the worsening financial position of the States. The division of the sources of taxation between the States and the Union is very unsatisfactory and it has got to be revised. All sources of excise revenue must be given to the States. They must also get larger shares in the income-tax. If the Government wants to create a welfare State, it must be done

Coming to my own State, Andhra, it has become a certainty now but no provision has been made in the Central Budget for meeting the emergent and initial expenses of that new State. The marked silence of the Prime Minister's statement over the financial aspect of the new State is causing much trouble to the Andhra minds. I, therefore, request the Finance Minister to come forward with supplementary demands immediately on the lines suggested by the Wanchoo report. Mr. Wanchoo suggested ten crores of rupees must be given for the capital and five crores towards concurrent grants. I will be more glad if what Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi said at Vijayawada on the 3rd April is true. He said that the Centre has agreed to give ten crores of rupees for the capital and five crores of rupees for concurrent grants for the initial expenditure.

Secondly, the percentage of the divisible pool of income-tax and Union taxes must also be immediately revised in view of the formation of the Andhra State and grants-in-aid must be liberally given. In this connection, I would like to mention the tobacco excise revenue. The Centre is getting nearly 15 to 16 crores of rupees from the tobacco excise from Andhra State. As I just now said, the States must be given the excise sources and if it is not possible to do so in the near future in the case of all the States, this concession must be given at least to the Andhra State for five or six years. If that is done, we can stand on our own legs and we can develop the Andhra area, which is abundant in natural resources and make it a land of milk and honey. I assure the Finance Minister that the Andhra State will not be a drag on the Centre. On the other hand, we will be in a position to extend our helping hand to some of the less fortunate States. The financial structure of the country is lopsided, obsolete and outmoded and it does not fit in with the idea of a welfare State. It is quite evident from the Budget that the Congress Government intended to perpetuate the same old policy, the policy of safeguarding the profits of big business and the loot by the parasitic elements in this country.

Seventy per cent. of the Central revenue is derived from the taxes on consumption. That is to say, indirect taxes. These taxes are further enhanced this year in the form of sugar cess, *Khadi* and handloom development cess and enhanced postal rates. To make matters worse, there is the deficit financing to the extent of 110 crores of rupees. What is this deficit financing? This deficit financing is nothing but a tax on the consumptions. What would be the over-all effect of all this? The real wages of the workers will be reduced to a very large extent and this is how the taxes are levied on the poor people of this country. The poor people, of course, do not pay income-tax but they have to pay taxes in the form of higher prices and we do not find any tax-evaders among the poor because they have to buy articles for their necessities. But on the other hand, Government have been giving tax-relief to the big business. This year also, the big bosses of the jute mills have been given relief to the extent of crores of rupees; exemptions have been provided for income-tax on the income earned by the parent company if it is invested in another company. All this is done under the pretext of capital formation, for the development of the industries. But, everybody knows that the successive taxation reliefs given to the big business did not lead to any capital formation during the last five years. The Centre is dependent entirely on customs and excise for its revenue. It is a very dangerous thing. These revenues are very uncertain. They depend upon the international situations. The Centre must revert to other sources. The Centre cannot get more money by taxing the consumer;

[Shri Nanadas]

unless the standard of life of the people is improved, and for doing that Government has to change its policy entirely and radically. The means of production must be socialised and national wealth and income should be equitably distributed. Unless that is done, the Centre cannot solve its financial problems.

To improve the standard of the masses, the tiller of the soil must be made the owner of it, and all kinds of exploitations must stop. A sane Government must try to get its revenues from State undertakings. At present we get hardly nine per cent. of our revenue from State undertakings, whereas China gets 40 per cent. In India, the public sector deals with hardly ten per cent. of the national income activities as against 50 per cent. in the U.K. and 40 per cent. in America. It is time Government must give up the popular belief that the superfluity of wealth must be left with the rich for the purpose of capital formation. This idea is not in keeping with the welfare State conception. Idle money with the rich must be collected by means of taxes. The rich should be taxed heavily for two reasons. The States should get revenue and the Centre must take the responsibility for wiping out inequalities of wealth and income throughout the country.

The present system of tax collection is fraught with many difficulties and suffers from many defects. It is so inefficient and ineffective that there has been large-scale tax evasion. The recent disclosures of concealed income to the extent of several crores of rupees is a standing proof of this. We know how tax is evaded by big companies and even respectable people. I want the House to read the book called The Mystry Of Birla House to know all the secrets.

In the tobacco excise administration, discriminating favours are shown to British companies in India. It is a matter of shame and a flagrant violation of the rights provided in the Constitution. According to the Central Excise Act, all the tobacco licensees are to follow the rules and regulations framed by Government, but certain concessions were granted by the then Government to the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, which is a British firm and which is controlling the entire tobacco trade in this country. Those concessions are still being continued. The net result of it is a circumvention of the rules and regulations. In tobacco excise, the main principle of control by the State is to regulate the movement of tobacco from place to place and to supervise the weighment of tobacco. But in the case of the I.L.T.D. Co. these two things have been exempted. Further, it is amazing that this Company is permitted to have its own account books without maintaining the statutory accounts under the Central Excise Act, and its figures regarding quality, variety quantity of tobacco and refuse tobacco etc. are taken as gospel truth by the Central Excise Department. Refuse tobacco, which is unmarketable, is generally destroyed under the direct supervision of the Central Excise Department, but in the case of this I.L.T.D.Co., it is allowed to destroy such tobacco without the supervision of the Central Excise Department. This is resulting in a fraud and a loss to the extent of several crores of rupees. This sort of discrimination cannot be tolerated.

I shall give another example of tax evasion. In my district, a number of mica companies are growing up every day. There are several *binami* companies, and recently I came to know through a very reliable source that 50 per cent. of them working in Gudur were not paying municipal tax till very recently. It is only when the present non-Congress municipal committee came into power that this fraud was brought to light.

Another example of tax evasion is the managing agency system and the amount of commission that is allowed. It is far too generous and results in tax evasion. We must do away with this managing agency system.

Shri Morarka (Ganganagar-Jhunjhunu): I want to begin my speech by expressing our gratitude to the hon. Finance Minister for rendering such ready help to the famine-stricken areas, and particularly for deputing teams of officers to various areas so that they may study the position and make report. These reports would enable the Central Government to assess the quantum of help that should be given to each State.

But while we are thankful to the Finance Minister for this, I cannot in this respect hide the disappointment of the Rajasthan people, where no such team has yet been sent and no help has yet been rendered to this State from which I have the honour to come. As you know, Rajasthan's large area, with its huge population is under the grip of severe famine. The number of people affected is not

less than 30 to 40 lakhs. Their condition is so precarious, that unless some immediate help is rendered to them they will have to face complete annihilation by starvation. Admit that Rajasthan is comparatively a backward State and therefore it is not fortunate to have the same attention and sympathy from the Press as the other States have. Mainly therefore, it has remained almost neglected. But in my humble opinion, for such a State the responsibility of the Central Government is all the greater and I would request the Finance Minister to depute at least one such team immediately to study the requirements, and also to render some help.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

Next, I wish to congratulate the Finance Minister for accepting the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee on dearness allowance. Even though this measure is going to cost Rs. five crores more annually to the Indian Exchequer, it would give help to this particular class of Government employees, which they greatly need perticularly after their retirement from Government service. But here too, side by side with this acceptance, we hear a rumour that the dearness allowance of those Government employees who draw more than Rs. 750 per month will be abolished. I do not know whether there is any foundation for this rumour, but if there is, I must say that Government is contemplating a very harsh step. As you know, this dearness allowance was given to those Government employees as far back as July 1944 and it was sanctioned mainly to make up for the increased cost of living. Now even today if you examine the cost of living, you will find it so high that the action contemplated by Government cannot for a moment be justified. Besides, by this step, how much is Government going to save? Hardly Rs. 30 lakhs. I think this economy is hardly commensurate with the amount of hardship to which several Government employees will be put as it would involve an unjustified sacrifice on their part. This step is going to affect the family budget of so many officers adversely. I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will give his personal attention to this problem and would not allow any hasty decision to be taken without considering the pros and cons of the whole matter.

Well, if the Government is so pressed for economy and if the Government is serious about effecting any economy, I would suggest to the Government to look into the working of some of the Departments where huge sums of money are being annually spent without any commensurate return. When I say this, I particularly refer to the Department called the Multi Purpose National Sample Survey. Under Demand No. 26 we find this year a sum of Rs. 43,50,000 budgeted for this Department as against last year's sum of about 32,85,000. While I admit that we must spend more on economic and statistical research in this country, I cannot help feeling that we do not get the return for the amount spent on this Department. I say this because not only have the data collected by this Department been found unacceptable by the National Income Committee, for whose benefit this Department was set up three years ago, but even the method employed by this Department is so unscientific that I doubt whether they can ever collect any reliable data useful either to the National Income Committee or for any other purpose. I will give one illustration to make my point clear.

In the collection of data of the production of food in this country the method followed till 1943-44 was the same followed since the time of Akbar the Great. The method in essence was to ask the *patwaris* of all the villages to submit their estimates of production for the area under their charge. The *patwaris* accordingly sent these estimates to the Government. Senior officers of Government used to check these estimates on the basis of which estimates for the whole country were prepared. This method was found fairly satisfactory for administrative purposes. In any case those estimates were not worse than the estimates made out in other countries like U.S.A. or U.K. at similar times. But when the war came and the food problem became more and more acute the *patwaris* and other village officers started deliberately under-estimating the production. When this came to the notice of Government the Indian Council of Agricultural Research evolved a new check system. The Council started sending a team of officers to the various areas at random at the time of harvest. They would select a sample field, cut the crop themselves and weigh it and in the light of this practical test they would correct the estimates submitted by the *patwaris*. This system was found fairly satisfactory and reasonably accurate. It evoked a lot of praise from all over the world that one

[Shri Morarka]

of the Indian statisticians was appointed as the head statistician of the Food and Agricultural Organisation.

But during January last this work was suddenly transferred from I.C.A.R. to the National Sample Survey, and as against Rs. three lakhs which the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was spending, a sum of Rs. 43 lakhs was provided to collect the same data. The method employed by this Department of National Sample Survey, I beg to point out, is not only imperfect but also highly unsatisfactory. What they do is this. They send their officers to different villages which they have selected at random. These officers when they go to the villages do not carry out any survey by any objective measurement like crop cutting or anything of the sort, but they carry out a survey by merely questioning the people and gathering their opinion. This method, in essence, is to ask the villagers four to twelve months after the season as to how much they produced and how much they consumed during that period. I ask you: is it possible for anybody, however intelligent, leave alone the poor and illiterate villager to know exactly how much he produced during a period and how much he consumed? There look at this frightening questionnaire circulated by this Survey. It runs into more than 26 pages and covers more than 4,000 questions in all. Is it humanly possible for any hon. Member of this House even to have the patience to answer all these 4,000 questions? The questions are irritating and the answers elicited would be inaccurate. Any conclusion based on the basis of data collected by this method would be nothing but simple farce.

I will give an illustration to prove how misleading and unreasonable the data collected by this body are. In their earlier report—*Spot Check of Patwaris Record* 1949-50—this Department stated that the *patwaris* have actually over-estimated the area under wheat cultivation in North India; but in a subsequent report,—*N.S.S. Report: 1st Round*—the same people for the same period for the same area say that the *patwaris* had underestimated the area under wheat cultivation.

My second criticism against this N.S.S. is that they have so far not published their production figures regarding jute, cotton and sugar. It may be they have some difficulty in publishing them but in the absence of any explanation from this Department, one is inclined to think that these data are deliberately withheld from us, so that cross-checking may be avoided.

The third criticism I would like to make against this Department is that that part of the data which have been analysed by Dr. Gadgil at the Gokhale Institute in Poona, has not yet been published; only the data analysed by Prof. Mahalanobis has been published. I would like to know and I am sure the House would be interested to know, why that report has not yet been published.

At a recent Press Conference the head of this Department stated that our food difficulty is not due to insufficient production, but is mainly due to maldistribution. I do not know what impression this statement would create here but in the other countries it may create an impression that ours is a wonderful nation which spends hundreds of crores of rupees every year on the import of food, merely because we cannot ensure the proper distribution of food, though our food production is not insufficient. To say the least, I think such a statement before the Press was hasty and indiscreet. Such statements by responsible officers do not help us to get wheat loans which we need so badly.

Before I part with this topic, I would refer the hon. the Finance Minister to a magazine called *Economic Weekly* in which this Department of National Sample Survey, that is, N.S.S. is called "non-squitur survey" meaning that it proves nothing. This certainly is not a compliment either to the Department or to the persons responsible for it. I would, therefore, request the hon. the Finance Minister to give his personal attention to this matter and get the activities of this Department examined by some competent economists and administrators so that this waste of about Rs. 44 lakhs annually may be saved.

In any case, under the method adopted by the N.S.S. figures for individual *tahsils* and districts cannot be obtained, as they were being obtained under the system followed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Those figures are very essential for revenue and administrative purposes, particularly in these days when many parts of the country are

threatened by famine. In order to assess the requirements of these different geographical units, we must have, as far as possible, detailed data information about food production.

Then, coming to insurance, as the House knows, for the last few years there has been a persistent demand from the public for the nationalisation of life insurance. The main reason is that all these life insurance funds represent the savings of the country and it is high time that these savings are taken charge of by Government and utilised for same purpose of nation building activities rather than leaving them in the hands of private individuals who can fritter them and play with them in any manner they like.

Before I sit down, I want to make a brief reference to the Indian Companies Act for which Rs. seven lakhs under the same Demand No. 26 are provided, as against Rs. 3,75,090 provided last year. As the House knows, the Indian Company Law Inquiry Committee has recommended that a central authority should be set up for administering the Indian company law. But so far no Bill has been brought before the House and we do not know whether their recommendation has been accepted or not. In the absence of it I do not know why a hundred per cent. increase is made in the lump sum provision for the administration of the Indian companies.

While talking about company law I must remind the House of the Indian Companies (Amendment) Act, 1951 under which a Committee consisting both of officials and non-officials was appointed. While I do not have anything to say against the personnel or any one person, I wish to say that persons who have commercial interests of a varied character and who cannot be expected to exercise an impartial judgment in the discharge of their duties should not be recruited to such posts. In this country we have non-official persons who can fill the highest seats of justice and can bring an impartial and expert mind to bear on those matters. I would therefore request the Finance Minister, whenever such appointments are made, to avoid persons who have got interests in the commercial undertakings and who cannot exercise an impartial view.

Finally, I wish to say that it is really praiseworthy of this Ministry that it has not only accepted the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee but has started implementing them by calling upon the Imperial Bank to open more and more branches in the rural areas. As the House knows, the Imperial Bank has opened 19 more branches and by July this year the remaining 12 more would be opened.

The House welcomes whole-heartedly the Government's decision in forming a new Directorate of Investigation to root out corruption from the Income-Tax Department.

श्री एस० एन० दास (दरभंगा मध्य) : सब से पहले मैं अपने अर्थ मंत्री को इस बात के लिये धन्यवाद देता हूं कि यद्यपि देर से आये लेकिन वह दुरुस्त आये हैं । टैक्सेशन इंक्वारी कमेटी की नियुक्ति के लिये जनता और जनता के प्रतिनिधि की तरफ से वर्षों से मांग हो रही थी और मेरे ख्याल से उस कमेटी की नियुक्ति विधान परिषद् की नियुक्ति के साथ हो जानी चाहिये थी । जैसे विधान का बनाना जरूरी था वैसे ही देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था के सुधार के लिये और सरकार की कर नीति की दिशा निर्धारित करने के लिये जरूरी था कि देश में जो विविध रूप से जनता से कर लिये जाते हैं उनका असर जनता के किस वर्ग पर किस तरह पड़ता है इसकी जानकारी हो । इसकी जानकारी हमको अभी नहीं है । सन् १९२४ में जब हम गुलाम थे उस समय इस देश की सरकार ने टैक्सेशन इंक्वारी कमेटी की नियुक्ति की थी । लेकिन तब से गंगा के पुल के नीचे बहुत पानी बह गया । दुनियां और देश में बहुत परिवर्तन हो गये । फिर भी इस देश की सरकार को सन् १९४७ ई० से लेकर सन् १९५३ ई० तक इस बात की आवश्यकता नहीं महसूस हुई कि कर के भार की जांच करने के लिये टैक्सेशन इंक्वारी कमेटी की नियुक्ति की जाये । इसलिये देर से ही सही हमारे अर्थ मंत्री दुरुस्त आये हैं । मैं उनको बधाई देता हूं ।

साथ ही साथ एक दूसरी बात के लिये भी मैं उनको बधाई देता हूं कि उन्होंने देर से

[श्री एस० एन० दास]

ही सही, लेकिन ऐस्टेट ड्यूटी बिल इस संसद् के सामने पेश किया है। हिंदुस्तान में जब विधान बनाया गया तो यद्यपि हमने अपने सामने एक बड़ा आदर्श रखा, राजनीतिक न्याय, सामाजिक न्याय और आर्थिक न्याय स्थापित करने का। लेकिन साथ ही साथ विधान बनाते समय, मुझे, सभापति महोदय यह कहना पड़ता है कि सदियों से जो संचित शोषण द्वारा प्राप्त धन था और स्थापित स्वार्थ थे उनकी रक्षा के लिये हमने उस में एक धारा का समावेश कर दिया। फिर भी बहुत से ऐसे रास्ते सरकार के लिये खुले हुए थे कि जिन रास्तों को अख्तियार कर के हमारी सरकार देश में जो धन की विषमता या मौके की विषमता है उस को दूर कर सकती थी। लेकिन बहुत दिनों के बाद १९५० म ऐसा कह सकते हैं और उस के कुछ पहले भी इस तरह का एक बिल सभा के सामने उपस्थित किया गया था जिसके द्वारा संपत्ति पर कर लगाया जाना था। परन्तु न मालूम किस कारण से वह बिल बराबर खटाई में पड़ा रहा। खैर, देर से ही सही १९५२ में वह बिल संसद् के सामने पेश किया गया और उसे सलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजा गया। सिलेक्ट कमेटी से वह बिल आ गया है। मैं समझता हूं कि अब हमारे अर्थ मंत्री किसी भी प्रकार की विघ्न बाधा अपने सामने न आने देकर इस संसद् में इस बिल को पास करावेंगे ताकि जनता की समझ में यह बात आ जाय कि हिंदुस्तान में जो आर्थिक विषमता है उसको कम करने के लिये सरकार ने सही कदम उठाया है यद्यपि यही पूरा कदम नहीं है।

अब, सभापति महोदय, अपने अर्थ मंत्री के बजट-भाषण के एक विषय की तरफ हमारा ध्यान जाता है। जब हमारे सामने बजट पेश किया जाता है तो उस भाषण में अर्थ मंत्री देश की दशा का दिग्दर्शन कराते हैं। देश की दशा का दिग्दर्शन कराते हुये हर साल हमारे अर्थ मंत्री यह पेश करते हैं कि इस देश में अमुक अमुक पदार्थों का उत्पादन इतना हुआ, वस्तु के मूल्य का इंडैक्स नम्बर ऐसा ऐसा रहा। मैं समझता हूं कि हिंदुस्तान की बदली हुई परिस्थिति में और जिस तरह की हिंदुस्तान की अवस्था है, जैसे विभिन्न प्रकार के लोग हमारे देश में मौजूद हैं ऐसी हालत में इस तरह का, देश की आर्थिक दशा का दिग्दर्शन उपयुक्त और पर्याप्त नहीं है। देश की दशा का दिग्दर्शन कराते हुए अर्थ मंत्री को बताना चाहिये कि इस देश में बेकारी की समस्या समाधान कहां तक हुआ, देश में फैली बेकारी को दूर करने की दिशा में साल भर में क्या क्या प्रयत्न हुए। उन प्रयत्नों के किस क्षेत्र में क्या परिणाम हुए। हमारे अर्थ मंत्री को अपने भाषण में संक्षिप्त रूप में यह भी बताना चाहिये कि जहां उत्पादन बढ़ा वहां हिंदुस्तान के किस वर्ग ने उन पदार्थों का किस रूप में उपभोग किया। उत्पादन बढ़ने से देश में धन अवश्य बढ़ता है। लेकिन देश में जो पिछड़े हुये लोग हैं जो गरीब लोग हैं, उनका कहां तक कनजम्पशन बढ़ता है यह भी महत्व रखता है। जब तक यह नहीं मालूम हो हमको अपने देश की आर्थिक अवस्था और समृद्धि का ठीक ठीक पता नहीं लग सकता। इसलिये मैं अपने अर्थ मंत्री से अनुरोध करूंगा कि अगले साल जब बजट पेश करें तो विभिन्न इंडैक्स वगैरह की बात करते हुए यह बात भी बताने की कृपा करें कि जो करोड़ों लोग बेकार हैं जो काम नहीं मिलने के कारण भूखे रहते हैं उनकी समस्या को हल करने की दिशा में कहां तक उन्होंने तरक्की की है।

हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान है। हमारे अर्थ मंत्री भी इस को मानते हैं और योजना कमीशन

न भी इस बात को पूरी तरह महसूस किया है और मान लिया है। इसीलिये खेती पर बहुत ज्यादा ज़ोर दिया गया है। मैं ने आज योजना कमीशन की रिपोर्ट को इस दृष्टि से देखने की कोशिश की कि उसमें एग्रीकल्चरल फाइनेंस के बारे में क्या कहा गया है। उन करोड़ों आदमियों को आर्थिक सहायता पहुंचाने के बारे में क्या कहा गया है जो खेती से अपना निर्वाह करते हैं जिनका शहर से कम संपर्क है और व्यापार और उद्योग से जिनका कम संबंध है। वे आज अपनी खेती की उन्नति के लिये विकास के लिये, पूंजी कहां से प्राप्त करते हैं मैं ने सोचा कि योजना कमीशन ने अपने दो वर्ष के समय में इस बात का पूरा पता लगाया होगा इसका असेसमेंट किया होगा कि हिंदुस्तान में किसानों पर कर्ज़ा कितना है हिंदुस्तान में जो खेती के लिये पूंजी देने की समस्या है वह किस रूप में है। चार पांच पन्न के अन्दर यह बता दिया गया है कि रिज़र्व बैंक एक इंक्वारी कर रहा है और रिज़र्व बैंक का जो सरवे हो रहा है उस की जब रिपोर्ट निकलेगी तब ठीक ठीक अन्दाजा हम लोगों को लगेगा कि खेती के लिये कितनी पूंजी की जरूरत है. खेती में लगे हुए लोगों के लिये समय पर बीज के लिये, बैल के लिये और दूसरी प्रकार के खेती के काम के लिये थोड़े समय के कर्ज़ उस से कुछ अधिक समय के लिये और लांग टर्म के कर्ज़ आदि के बारे में सारी विवेचना जब रिजर्व बैंक की वह रिपोर्ट आवेगी तब हो सकेगी। सभी खेती की कर्ज़ व्यवस्था के बारे में एक विस्तृत और सुसम्बद्ध नीति निर्धारित की जा सकेगी। हमारे यहां कहावत है कि जब तक देवता का आगमन होगा तब तक रोगी ही खत्म हो जायगा। यह कहावत इस बात पर बिल्कुल चरितार्थ होती है। दो वर्ष तक मेहनत करने के बाद योजना कमीशन को यह पता नहीं लगा कि हिंदुस्तान में सात लाख गांव में जो खेती करने वाले लोग हैं, उनको वक्त पर कम सूद और आसानी से कर्ज़ा देने के लिये क्या किया जाये। सुझाव पर सुझाव आते हैं। गवर्नमेंट कहती है और चाहती है कि कोआपरेशन के जरिये कार्य हो, सहयोग से काम हो। विभिन्न राज्यों में कोआपरेटिव मूवमेंट भी जारी हैं। पर इससे अभी तक एग्रीकल्चरल क्रेडिट का सवाल हल नहीं हुआ। इस आंदोलन की विफलता के कई कारण बताये जाते हैं। पर मैं उन कारणों में नहीं जाना चाहता। इतना ही कहूंगा कि वह सवाल ऐसा है कि इस पर गंभीरतापूर्वक और शीघ्रता से विचार होना चाहिये।

मैं सरकार से कहना चाहता हूं कि इस दिशा में रिज़र्व बैंक आफ इंडिया को बहुत ज्यादा रोल प्ले करना चाहिये। रिजर्व बैंक आफ़ इंडिया ऐक्ट में कुछ तबदीलियां हुई हैं जिनसे खेती के कर्ज के लिये नौ महीने से एकोमडेशन को बढ़ाकर पन्द्रह महीने किया गया है इसके अलावा और अन्य तबदीलियां भी होने वाली हैं जिससे रिजर्व बैंक खेती के लिये कुछ अधिक रक़म कर्ज में दे सकेगा। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि इस व्यापक समस्या का इससे स्थायी हल नहीं हो पायगा। इसलिए रिजर्व बैंक आफ़ इंडिया में जो एग्रीकल्चर क्रडिट डिपार्टमेंट है उस डिपार्टमेंट को स्थायी रूप देना चाहिये और स्थायी रूप देकर इंडस्ट्रियल फाइनेंस कारपोरेशन ऐक्ट की तरह एग्रीकल्चर फानेंस कारपोरेशन ऐक्ट के जरिये एक एग्रीकलचर फाइनेंस कारपोरेशन कायम किया जाये जिसमें केन्द्रीय सरकार, राज्य की सरकारें और रिजर्व बैंक का पूरा सहयोग मिले। अगर सरकार सचमुच इस समस्या से खिलवाड़ नहीं करना चाहती और वास्तव में चाहती है कि खेती में तरक्की हो किसानों की हालत अच्छी हो और खेती सचमुच में एक व्यवसाय के रूप में इस देश में चले तो और समस्याओं के हल करने के साथ

[श्री एस० एन० दास]

साथ एक समस्या यह भी है कि उनके लिये सस्ते सूद पर जल्दी से बिना किसी कठिनाई के उनको समय पर कर्ज मिले । मैं यहां इस बात को कहे बगैर नहीं रह सकता कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ़ से विभिन्न राज्यों को ग्रो मोर फूड आन्दोलन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिये जो अनेक प्रकार की सहायता और कर्ज दिया जाता है उनके वितरण का जो वर्त्तमान तरीका है वह इतना दोषपूर्ण है कि किसान उनसे पूरा लाभ नहीं उठा सकते । उनको न तो वक्त पर कर्ज मिलता है और देर से प्राप्त कर्ज से वे बीज, बैल तथा दूसरे खेती के सामान समय पर नहीं खरीद पाते हैं ।

नतीजा उसका यह होता है कि जो रुपया हम करोड़ों की तादाद में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को देते हैं और जिसको स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स खुद तकावी कर्ज के रूप में या किसी काआपरेटिव के जरिये जनता में वितरण कराती हैं वह रुपया और सहायता ठीक वक्त पर नहीं पहुंच पाती और वह रुपया और दूसरे कामों—विवाह, शादी आदि में खर्च हो जाता है, अनुत्पादक कामों में खर्च हो जाता है जिससे न तो किसानों को फ़ायदा पहुंचता है और न अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ पाता है । मैं चाहता हूं कि हमारे अर्थ मंत्री महोदय इस तरफ़ अपना ध्यान दें और जल्द से जल्द विभिन्न राज्य की सरकारों से परामर्श कर खेती के लिये कर्ज देने के लिये उपयुक्त संगठन देश में फैलावें । साधारणतः ऐसे कामों को करने से पहले सरकार कमेटी की नियुक्ति करती है । इंक्वारी कमेटी पिछली गवर्नमेंट भी बिठाती थी और यह सरकार भी बिठाती है और मैं कोई इस के बिठाने के विरुद्ध नहीं हूं अलबत्ता यह हमारे सबका अनुभव रहा है इंक्वारी कमेटी बिठाने में भी देरी होती है और रिपोर्ट तैयार करने में भी देरी होती है और रिपोर्ट अगर तैयार भी हो जाय तो उसको विचाराधीन रखकर निर्णय पर पहुंचने में और भी अधिक देरी होती है, नतीजा यह होता है कि जिस वक्त जो काम करना चाहिये, सरकार उसे नहीं कर पाती ।

दूसरी बात मैं अपने अर्थ मंत्री महोदय से बेकारी के संबंध में कहना चाहूंगा । उन्होंने अपने बजट भाषण में बेकारी की समस्या के बारे में बोलते हुए कहा था कि बेकारी की समस्या एक ऐसी समस्या है जिस पर हमें एक बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर योजना बनानी पड़ेगी और धीरे धीरे हमें इस समस्या का समाधान करना होगा । मैं कांग्रेस का सदस्य हूं और हालांकि श्री सी० डी० देशमुख कांग्रेस टिकट पर नहीं खड़े हुए थे, लेकिन फिर भी इस बार उनको उम्मीदवार होने के कारण जनता से काफी संपर्क हुआ है और उन्होंने भी महसूस किया होगा कि सरकार द्वारा इतने धीरे २ क़दम उठाने से आज काम नहीं चल सकेगा । आज से सौ वर्ष पहले तो शायद यह क़दम उपयुक्त हो सकता था और उनका ऐसा कहना कि हमें धीरे धीरे इस दिशा में क़दम बढ़ाना होगा, उस समय ठीक हो सकता था, लेकिन आज की अवस्था में जब कि देश में करोड़ों आदमी बेकार हैं और बेकार रहने की वजह से उनको भर पेट खाना और कपड़ा नहीं मिल पाता, इस देश के अर्थ शास्त्र के वेत्ता यह कहें कि यह समस्या ऐसी है कि जिसमें धीरे २ हमको क़दम बढ़ाना पड़ेगा, तो कहना पड़ेगा कि अर्थ मंत्री समय की गति और समस्या की तीव्रता को सही रूप में नहीं देख रहे हैं, हम लोग गांव के रहने वाले हैं, देहात की जनता के बीच में आते जाते हैं और उनके बीच कार्य करते हैं मैं उनको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जब हम वोट के

सिलसिले में गांवों में गये तो जनता ने हम से बड़ा हिसाब किताब मांगा । अब गांव ऐसे नहीं रहे जहां कोई सवाल नहीं पूछता था सब जगह हम से यही सवाल किया गया कि ग़रीबी को दूर करने के लिये हमारे देश में क्या क्या प्रबन्ध हुआ है ? हम ग़रीबों के लिए क्या क्या हो रहा है । मैं समझता हूं कि आज हमारी अर्थ नीति और अर्थ व्यवस्था इस प्रकार की होनी चाहिये जिससे लोगों को भर पेट भोजन मिल सके और कोई बकार न रहे, मैं कोई अर्थ शास्त्र का वेत्ता नहीं हूं, लेकिन ग़रीब होने के नाते और उनके बीच में रहने और काम करने के कारण में यही समझ पाया हूं कि आज देश की मुख्य समस्या रोटी के प्रश्न को हल करना है । इंडस्ट्रीयल फ़ाइनेंस कारपोरेशन, रिहैबिलिटेशन कारपोरेशन और अन्य दूसरे कारपोरेशन्स का महत्व जनता की नज़र में तभी होगा जब जनता को भर पेट भोजन और तन ढांकने के लिए पर्याप्त वस्त्र मिल सके । मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे अर्थ मंत्री को इस बेकारी के सवाल की तरफ़ जल्द से जल्द ध्यान देना चाहिये नहीं तो इस देश में एक ऐसा बवंडर उठ खड़ा होगा जिस में सारी अर्थ नीति ठप्प पड़ जायगी और अर्थ शास्त्र के जो सिद्धांत हैं, वह सब चकनाचूर हो जायेंगे, क्योंकि आखिर में भूखा मनुष्य अर्थ शास्त्र के इन सब सिद्धांतों को न तो मान सकता है और न इन पर विश्वास ही कर सकता है और इसलिये यह अति आवश्यक हो जाता है कि इस समस्या पर अति गंभीरता पूर्वक हमारे अर्थ मंत्री जैसे चिंतामणि वह हैं, उसी चिंता के साथ विचार करेंगे और विचार करके जल्द से जल्द कोई ऐसा उपाय निकालेंगे जिससे हिंदुस्तान की सभी जनता को काम मिले, रोज़ी मिले । जब तक सभी को काम नहीं दे सकेंगे उनके पास वस्तुओं को खरीदने की शक्ति नहीं होगी । जब उनके पास क्रय शक्ति नहीं होगी तो जो कपड़ा और दूसरे सामान हम तैयार करते हैं उसकी खपत कैसे होगी । कपड़े के व्यवसाय को लीजिये पहले हम हिंदुस्तान में खपने वाले कपड़े की एक तिहाई विदेश से मंगाते थे, एक तिहाई यहां के गांवों में हैंड लूमों पर बनता था और शेष एक तिहाई यहां के मिलों में बनता था । आज हम अपने देश में पूरा कपड़ा तैयार कर लेते हैं । क्या इससे हम कह सकते हैं कि हमारे देश में कपड़े के उपभोग में वृद्धि हुई है । अभी भी फ़ी आदमी कपड़े का इस्तेमाल प्रति वर्ष १२ गज़ से अधिक नहीं पड़ता है । हमारी सारी दस्तकारी, उद्योग धंधे किसान के कंजम्पशन की शक्ति पर चलने वाले हैं जब उनके पास खाने के लिये अनाज और पहिनने के लिए कपड़ा खरीदने के लिए पर्याप्त धन होगा, तभी कपड़े और दूसरे व्यवसाय चल सकेंगे, अन्यथा अति उत्पादन से व्यवसाय भी कम पड़ जायेंगे । करोड़ों लोगों के पास पैसे नहीं होंगे तो वे खरीदेंगे कहां से ?

अन्त में मैं एक बार फ़िर अपने अर्थ मंत्री महोदय से अपील करूंगा कि वह अपने क़दम को ज़रा तेज़ करें, क्योंकि आज की अवस्था में धीरे २ क़दम बढ़ाने से समस्या का हल होने वाली नहीं है, सौ वर्ष पहले इस तरह धीरे धीरे चलना शायद उपयुक्त हो भी सकता था, लेकिन आज की हालत में यह ठीक नहीं है । परिस्थिति विषम है । और इस में सुधार लाने के लिये शीघ्र क़दम उठाने की ज़रूरत है । भूख की ज्वाला क्या न क्या कर बैठती है । मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि हमारा कांग्रेस मंत्रिमंडल समस्या को समझता है । मैं ने अर्थ मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर इसी ग़रज़ से खींचा है जिससे शीघ्र से शीघ्र सही क़दम उठाया जाय, शरीर में हार्ट ठीक हो लेकिन जब तक आर्टरीज़ में ब्लड का सरकुलेशन ठीक तरह से नहीं

[श्री एस० एन० दस]

होगा तब तक शरीर के अंग प्रत्यंग ठीक और स्वस्थ नहीं होंगे। रक्त के विषम वितरण से शरीर नीरोग नहीं रह सकता। हो सकता है कुछ समय तक शरीर के एक भाग का विकास हो पर संपूर्ण शरीर का समुचित विकास नहीं होगा। फ़ाइनेंस विभाग राष्ट्रीय शरीर में हार्ट के समान है। उसका यह कार्य है कि वह देखे कि शरीर के सब भागों में रक्त का ठीक तरह से सरकुलेशन होता है। Pump in blood to every part of the body. हमारे अर्थ मंत्री महोदय को इस बारे में प्रयत्नशील होकर ऐसा प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये ताकि राजनैतिक शरीर के अंग प्रत्यंग ठीक और स्वस्थ रहें।

Shri R. N. S. Deo: I find that in Demand No. 122, provision has been made for a lump sum of Rs. 26 crores and for the grow-more-food campaign Rs. 27.86 crores and for unforeseen natural calamities Rs. three crores making a total of Rs. 56.86 crores. In addition to this sum there is a provision of Rs. 46.27 crores for the river valley schemes and for loans to State Governments. I have moved cut motions under Demand 122 to discuss the policy underlying advancing loans for irrigation purposes and also another cut motion to discuss the necessity of a co-ordinated and integrated development plan before granting loans to States. Only this morning, the news appeared in the newspapers stating that over two lakhs of tons of rice have been procured in Orissa and the procurement is likely to pass even the three lakh ton mark. But what has been the policy of our Government in granting of loans for these irrigation schemes? From a recent debate in the Orissa Assembly and a newspaper report I find that the Union Government had made a special consideration in the case of Orissa in view of Orissa's poverty and in the case of grants for private irrigation schemes, the Government of India had agreed to advance up to 75 per cent. as subsidy. But, subsequently, the policy was revised. In 1952-53, the subsidy was reduced to two-thirds for new schemes, and half for the old projects. In 1953-54, this has again been revised and the subsidy has been reduced to 25 per cent. of the total cost only. It is said that in the period 1949-50 to 1952-53, 3998 schemes were undertaken in Orissa out of which 1586 have been completed, which has resulted in the additional production of 50,000 tons of rice. In view of the fact that we are still suffering from a large deficit in foodgrains, and that we have to import huge quantities every year, which is also another strain on our economy because it depletes our foreign exchange, it should be the policy of the Government to encourage food production by every possible means. But, I regret to say that there has been no consistency in the policy followed in this regard. There has been a constant change in this policy regarding the grant of subsidy.

I now come to loans granted for the big river valley schemes. Up till the end of last year, about Rs. 130 crores have already been spent on these big river valley projects. This year, another sum of Rs. 50 crores is likely to be spent. But, how are these river valley schemes going to benefit the States concerned? That is the most important question that is agitating the minds of the people of these States. On various occasions, we have had to criticise certain irregularities in the Hirakud project. But, I wish to make it quite clear that the criticisms that we have been offering do not arise out of any malice or any desire to run down the Government. The criticisms arise out of a much deeper cause: it is due to the greatest anxiety felt throughout Orissa regarding the success of the Hirakud scheme. As you know, a sum of Rs. 92 crores is going to be spent on this scheme; in the first phase Rs. 67 crores are going to be spent on this scheme. All that sum is being advanced by the Central Government as a loan to the Orissa Government. But, the Mazumdar Committee's report has expressed doubts regarding the success of the power part of that scheme. This scheme is an integrated scheme of both power and irrigation. As a result of the rising cost of the scheme, the Mazumdar Committee has also recommended that the allocation of costs for power and irrigation should be changed from 29 and 71 to 20 and 80, which, in effect, would mean increasing the cost for irrigation, and that indirectly means increasing the burden on the tenants, who will be mainly benefited. The betterment levy which is to be realised from the people who will be benefited by this irrigation is going to be increased because of this change in the ratio. In the last year, during the debates both on the Railway Budget as well as the river valley schemes, I had occasion to offer certain criticisms with regard to the necessity of an integrat-

ed development scheme, if we are going to have any benefit out of these river valley schemes. But even now we do not see any efforts being made in that direction. As I have already quoted, the Mazumdar Committee has expressed doubts regarding the power part of the scheme. We have not yet got any picture of the industrial development that is proposed in the Hirakud area to utilise the power that is going to be produced from 1955-56. It is known to you that Orissa is the first in mineral resources, and second in forest resources among all the States of India and is also rich in agricultural resources and potentialities. There is great scope for development. And, yet, though nature has been kind in providing Orissa with these vast natural resources, it is a paradox that that State happens to be the poorest and the most underdeveloped amongst all the States of India. Therefore, to make up the leeway and to correct the lop-sided development that has taken place in our economy, it is all the more necessary that industrialisation should have received adequate attention.

In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to what the Planning Commission have said regarding the location of industries, in Chapter XXIX, para. 149 They have said:

> "Industrial development in India has so far been on an unplanned basis. Although there has been a trend towards wide dispersion of some industries like cotton textiles and cement, industrial development in some parts of the country has lagged behind seriously. The excessive concentration of industries brings in its train certain economic and social disadvantages and a wider diffusion of industry is desirable from this larger point of view. Further, if industrial development in the country is to proceed rapidly and in a balanced manner, increasingly greater attention will have to be paid to the development of those States and regions which have so far remained backward."

Though the Planning Commission have diagnosed the disease correctly, I am afraid, that so far as applying the remedy is concerned, there are no signs apparent yet. I therefore urge upon the Government to have a clearer policy with regard to grant of loans for irrigation, and also to follow a consistent policy in regard to the advances for these big multi-purpose schemes. Otherwise, though the intention in granting the loans is no doubt good—it is done with the motive of helping those States to develop—its actual effect is likely to be ruinous to those States. If there is no co-ordinated development and as a result thereof the scheme does not pay the return that is expected of it, I am afraid that, instead of being an asset, these schemes are liable to become liabilities of those States. Therefore, I again plead for a scheme of co-ordinated and integrated development including the development of transport facilities, that, is Railways, and industrial development along with those of irrigation and power.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): I will not take long. I wish only to refer to one "forgotten matter", to borrow a phrase from the Moral Re-armament people.

Some years back the Government servants in the lower rungs had a privilege called the privilege ticket order. That was given to them to enable them to go home every year and recoup themselves or attend to family needs. We all know how these Government servants in the Central services are drawn from all parts of the country, and come here and serve They are far away from their homes, and remain continually out of touch with their respective places. Naturally, they lead an artificial life, and get thoroughly dejected in their outlook, and their interest in work is also lessened if they are not allowed to go home sufficiently quickly. Of late, this privilege ticket order has been withdrawn and I suppose it is for reasons of economy, but I would like to appeal to Government to see if they cannot re-introduce this either in its original form or in some modified form. I am sure if that is done, it will contribute towards the efficiency and contentment of the Government servants, and the little money that Government spends on it will be more than made up by the enthusiasm which those in service will show by enjoying the benefit of this facility. High officials can manage to travel, combining duties with travel, but for those in the lower rungs of the ladder, it is not so easy, and most of them are not likely to be benefited. Therefore, while it is one thing for the Finance Ministry to act as the watch dog of our finances, it will also be good if they get rid of their wooden frame of mind and attend to such sentimental and cultural needs of their employees. Therefore, I appeal to Government to see whether they can reintroduce this concession.

That is the only thing I wanted to say. I do not want to indulge in

[Shri C. R. Narasimhan]

deficit financing or anything like that. I will leave them in better hands, the best hand being our Finance Minister himself.

Shri B. Shiva Rao (South Kanara—South): I want to refer only to one matter which, I think, is of practical interest to many Members in this House.

In the Explanatory Memorandum given to us with the other budget papers, on page 129 are a number of items which come under the category of "Extraordinary Payments for Community Development Programmes". One item is of Rs. 633 lakhs for community programmes, and there is another big item of Rs. three crores which the Finance Minister, presumably taking his cue from the report of the Planning Commission, has called "local works". Then, there are comparatively smaller items, one of Rs. 25 lakhs which will be spent on grants-in-aid to institutions conducting social work; and then there is another for Rs. 20 lakhs for youth camps and labour services.

In this Memorandum there are meagre explanations given as to the manner in which these sums will be spent, but I think the House will appreciate and the public will appreciate if the Finance Minister, when he replies to the debate tomorrow, will take us into confidence and give us more information as to the manner in which this money is going to be spent than he was able to do either in this Memorandum or in the Budget speech which he delivered at the end of February.

So far as community projects are concerned, there have been discussions on the floor of this House and also outside; and the attention of the Government has been drawn fairly forcibly to the fact that one serious difficulty in the way of the satisfactory execution of these programmes is that State Governments, with possibly one or two exceptions, have so far not delegated a sufficient amount of authority and powers to the community project officers or to the district officials who are in charge of the several works, and to the local committees which have been formed in the project areas. I know from personal experience, because there is a community project in my own constituency, that schemes, however small they may be from the standpoint of expenditure or however urgent or desirable they may be, are held up because sanction is awaited from State headquarters; and sometimes it takes weeks, even months, before sanction can be obtained for even the smallest work. And the effect of this on the local people has been very serious. It is felt, not without justification, that the official mind still moves in the old grooves, and there is a good deal of suspicion of non-official co-operation. I have myself a growing amount of evidence in the shape of letters from my constituency to prove that the various schemes which have been undertaken have roused a great deal of enthusiasm. Roads have been built, several miles of them, because communication is a very acute problem in my part of the country. Tanks have been cleared. Causeways are being built; and I know from many schools and colleges students have gone out on week-end trips doing a great deal of valuable social work. But the feeling still persists that Government is not moving with the requisite amount of vigour or vision or of imagination. I can say that no fault lies with the local officials or those in charge of these works, or the representatives of the people who function in an advisory capacity. But, somewhere, the machinery seems to have gone rusty, or is clogged, and the consequence is disappointment and a widespread sense of frustration. I would request the Finance Minister to act quickly in this matter and to see that this great fund of human energy and enthusiasm is harnessed to constructive purposes. Because, if the first flush of enthusiasm is not adequately responded to by the Government, the disappointment is going to be very sharp. I would say that to the utmost extent possible we must leave it to the local people to decide which schemes should be taken up, what should be the priority given to the various schemes etc. I would plead with the Finance Minister for as complete a measure of autonomy as is practicable, for the local officials and the local committees. And this, as I have said, must be done quickly. I understand that there is going to be in Delhi, at the end of next week, a conference of Regional Commissioners, as I think they are called, who are in charge of all the community projects in the different States. I hope that this conference will succeed in evolving certain general principles to be applied in the execution of all these schemes in the community projects. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will insist on their immediate application. Already a good deal of time has been lost. We cannot forget that in the course of the next few weeks the monsoon will be upon us in several parts of the country, and the kind of co-operation

that many can afford to give in the implementation of these schemes, *viz.*, free labour, will not be available once the monsoon has started.

I next come to the next biggest item of expenditure of about Rs. three crores on local works. Much less has been said about this than about community projects. I would like to know what the Finance Minister proposes to do with this sum of money, and what general principles he has in mind in making the allocations out of this amount. As I said earlier, the State Governments have not responded with that promptitude and sympathy which one expected of them in regard to the community projects, and I feel a little uneasy and even apprehensive that if more funds are to be placed at their disposal, the same story will be repeated in regard to local works. I make no reflection on State Governments, but the experience of the last two months leads me to utter a word of caution and of prudence. The State Governments, as I said, must be encouraged in every possible way, to delegate the maximum of authority and power to local officials and local committees. I believe the suggestions have come to the Planning Commission that there must be a system whereby schemes which would, from the standpoint of the Government, cost Rs. ten or twenty thousands, should be left entirely to the discretion of the local officials and local committees. I do not suggest that sanction should be given in a hasty and slipshod manner. I entirely agree with the point made by some of the previous speakers that financial control must be strict. But having served on the Estimates Committee for two years and before that on the Standing Finance Committee, I have sometimes felt that one can easily make the mistake of going to the other extreme. We have had instances brought to our notice in the Estimates Committee, from more than one Ministry, of extravagance and waste resulting from an excessively rigid system of financial sanction being given to schemes. I would therefore plead with the hon. Finance Minister to evolve a new system of sanction of expenditure, which would be more expeditious than it has been in the past.

In the report for 1952-53, which has been supplied to us, there is a revealing passage by the Auditor-General in his report where he says that the system of accounting is very much out of date. I think, he says in that report that some of the traditions go back as far as the East India Company, and he has pleaded for an overhauling of the system of accounting. An overhaul is necessary, not only in the system of accounting but in the system of administration and in the outlook of the officials, particularly those who are charged with the duty of implementing these various schemes, whether they are in the community projects or under local works or under the Five Year Plan.

When I spoke about this Plan last year, I said that my conception of the success of this Plan was that it should not be measured merely in terms of the number of roads built, or schools and hospitals opened. That certainly is important, but far more important from my standpoint is the amount of non-official participation that has been encouraged in the carrying out of these various plans and schemes. The Finance Minister has already promised that there will be periodical reports of the progress achieved under the Five Year Plan, and I have no doubt that he will also apply that to the community projects. In those reports, I hope we shall have not only an objective appreciation of the progress made in the sense of an increase in the number of schools and hospitals and so on, but also that there will be a close watch kept on the expenditure, and on non-official participation which has helped in the implementing of this Plan.

About two months ago, I took the liberty of writing to the hon. Minister of Railways to try and experiment in this direction. I wrote to him that instead of the Railway Board deciding from New Delhi, or the General Managers from their respective headquarters, as to which platforms should be raised and so on—because we know from all parts of the country, there is a clamour for raising of the platforms at wayside stations—the Minister of Railways should make an announcement that wherever villagers come forward with offers of free labour, the Railway Board should agree to supply the material and whatever technical assistance may be necessary; I wrote to him that the experiment should be tried at least for a year, to see the results. I am confident that if that approach were effected by the Railways Ministry, for the same amount of money we can have the platforms raised at twice or three times the number of stations where we get them raised at the present moment.

I have nothing more to add, but as I said, it is of the greatest importance

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that the Finance Minister should, from the very beginning of the implementation of these plans, whether they are on community projects or on local works etc., ensure to the maximum extent possible, non-official participation and co-operation in the way I have indicated.

Shri Kanavade Patil (Ahmednagar North): I would like to make a short speech on the subject of the forest policy of the Government of India, and the conservation of soil. Much stress has been laid in the Five Year Plan on the agricultural development of this country, and a very huge amount has been earmarked for schemes on agriculture and community projects. They also include forest preservation and soil conservation. My submission is that to solve these two important problems the Planning Commission has not made proper allotment. The amount allotted is a very small amount of Rs. 12 crores. And in the Budget for the year 1953-54 under Demand No. 44 only a small amount of Rs. 30,84,000 has been allotted to be spent on forests and conservation of soil. I have to submit we have not properly appreciated the connection between the production of our agricultural crops and the preservation and development of forests in this country. How are we going to develop the immense agricultural production when we know that much of the soil in this country required for the purpose is in a hopelessly bad state?

According to my humble opinion forest plays a very important role in the life of any country. It supplies us with all the important materials for production, such as timber, plywood, charcoal and other important products; at the same time, over and above all, it helps to conserve water and prevent soil erosion.

The forest policy of the Government of India was laid down in the sixties of the 19th century. By a Resolution issued by the Government of India in the year 1894 they laid down the same policy with some variations. That policy remained as the basis of the Government of India's forest management and re-afforestation till May of 1952 when under the inspiration of the hon. Mr. K. M. Munshi a new approach to forestry was made. Under the policy as it is now laid down, one-third of the total area of the land was to be left for preserving and developing forests, and 60 per cent. of the total land area in the Himalayas, in the Deccan plateau and other mountainous tracts was to be reserved for developing forests. I would like to submit, within the short time at my disposal, that looking to the land which in America or Europe is given for preservation of forests, this is indeed a comfortable figure and we must work out on the basis of the plan laid down under the new Resolution of the Government of India's forest policy. In Chapters 21 and 22 of the Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has dealt with the subjects of conservation of soil and preservation of forests. But I have to submit we have to be more careful, looking to the denudation of forests in the country today. I would like to bring to the notice of this House the very serious condition and very serious shortage of water prevailing throughout the whole country today. It is because we have not been very careful—both the Centre as well as the State Governments—regarding the problem of forests in this country. To my great surprise, I have seen the authorities rather indifferent on the point of preservation of forest. I would like to submit that a very careful survey, both from the biological and economic point of view, of all the forests in India must be taken up within as short a time as we can, because the forest wealth of this country is being destroyed in such a relentless manner as it was never before and sometimes it seems that nobody is anxious to preserve the forests. I would like to bring to the notice of this House that because of the denudation of forests, all the hills, beautiful hills, mountain tracts, beautiful regions have become bare and appear deserted. It is indeed a very tragic situation which I want to bring to the notice of this House. One more point which is worth consideration is that because of the denudation of these forests and because of hundreds of miles of area lying bare now without forests in India, we have not got sufficient rains during the last few years. On this point I would like to qoute an authority *Soil Erosion* by Sir Harold Glover—An Oxford pamphlet. Sir Harold was Conservator of Forests in Punjab and was in Indian service for twenty years. On page 13 of this small pamphlet, he writes:

> "The day temperature within a forest is lower than outside; but when the trees disappear the sun heats up the rocks and bare earth, with the result that the hot air rises and forces up the clouds which no longer drop their moisture in the form of rain, and the country becomes drier than when it was covered with forest".

This is what he has written in this small book, I would like to submit that we also have seen from our experience—and of weather pandits and meteorlogists—that because of the denudation of the forests on a great scale, we have been getting very scanty rain during the last so many years. We are not facing this problem in its realities. We are trying to think that this is a small problem. But to my mind this is a most important and serious problem which must attract the attention of the Central as well as the State Governments. I am afraid the peasants who are ignorant do not understand the consequences of cutting down their own private trees. Care ought to be taken and more penal forest laws should be introduced to bring to the notice of the peasants the importance of the forest. Because of the denudation of forests, we have recently suffered very serious damage to our land also. I would like to bring to the notice of the House a few important damages which have resulted from the denudation of forests. For instance, the temperature has been increasing during the last so many years—15 to 20 years—because of the continuing process of destroying forests throughout India. Temperature has been rising. Rivers used to flow throughout the year. There were beautiful springs with beautiful banks having green trees standing on either side. But because the hillside forests have been cut down, there is now complete soil erosion and the water goes down to the sea. The underlying rock is now bare. It was once under cover of the trees and the soil used to soak the rain water, conserve it and release it at the time of the dry season. Now those trees are no more there, the beautiful hills are no more there, and all the wells throughout Bombay, Deccan and other important areas are getting dry. That is a very serious situation. I know for myself that the rivers Godavari, Narmada, Tapti, Krishna and all the big rivers in the south—beginning from Delhi up to the far south—are getting dry every year. I know of one river Mula in Ahmednagar District which has at its source 200 inches of rainfall per year, but as there is no forest even this river has begun to dry. A very small current of water is flowing through the river this year. This is really very terrific and sad to look at. I believe it is the duty of the Government of India as well as of the State Governments to pay sufficient attention to the question of these forests and sufficient amount also should be spent on the question of preservation of forests.

5 P. M.

I would like to say a few words about the conservation of soil. This is also a very important question and would like to quote from this book *Soil Erosion.—Its Prevention and Control* published by the Government of Madras in the year 1948. In Sholapur district experiments were carried out by the Government of Bombay as the erosion was serious. They wanted to ascertain some data regarding soil erosion. Let me quote:

> "From the results of experiments conducted in the Sholapur Dry Farming Research Station, it is seen that about 20 per cent. of total rainfall is lost by runoff which erodes away 35 tons of soil per acre per annum in the Bombay-Deccan tracts. In other words, 1/6th inch of soil is lost per annum by erosion or 1 inch of soil in six years. In light soils where the depth of soil does not exceed 6 inches the entire soil will be lost by erosion in about 36 years leaving the hard muram subsoil bare and unfit for any crop. Geologically, it takes thousands of years for nature to convert rock into soil 1 foot deep, fit for cultivation, but it is completely eroded and lost in about 50 to 100 years."

These are very serious results. They are warning us that we should be very careful in the conservation of the soil also. Forests alone can conserve this. If we have got sufficient forests, then alone soil can be conserved. I may submit that during the last few years out of 274 million acres of cultivable land, 123 million acres of land has been affected by erosion and this is a very serious matter. This is a staggering figure and if so much land is restored, then we will have sufficient foodstuffs also. I do not want to go on further. I have tried to bring to the notice of the House the serious and terrific results caused by the denudation of forests and by the loss of the soil caused by erosion.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: I would like to discuss today one of the least publicised of the financial problems arising out of partition, because I am convinced that the solution to this particular problem lies naturally within the ambit of the Ministry of Finance. I am emboldened to make a reference to this particular question after reading the report of the Finance Ministry, which, at page 10,

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makes a reference to the activities of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration. I am gladdened to note that the original amount of ten crores of rupees loanable towards rehabilitation of displaced persons is being raised to about 14:5 crores, and that already a sum of Rs. 5:4 crores have been utilised by those borrowers who, the report says, number as many as two lakhs of persons.

I have given notice of two cut motions, on Demand No. 26 and on Demand 42, dealing specially with the problems of displaced banks. I concede within the over-all picture of India's financial problems the position occupied by these displaced banks is very small indeed. I also concede that a solution to the problem of these banks must be found along with the general over-all solution to all problems between India and Pakistan. In this context I hope that the proposed talks between the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of India would prove fruitful.

I have got here some information regarding the problems of displaced banks. You are particularly aware of the fact that about a dozen displaced banks, originally incorporated, if I may use that word, in Lahore and West Pakistan generally, are now operating in India and today, they find that as much as Rs. 14,74,600 of liquid assets are frozen in West Pakistan, in addition to as much as Rs. 4.35.20.700 of blocked assets also frozen in West Pakistan If my figures are wrong, I shall be grateful to the Finance Minister if he would put me right. In addition to these 12 banks which have formed themselves into an association called the Displaced Banks Association, I am given to understand that there are six to eight banks—some of them very big—like the Punjab National Bank—I am only illustrating by giving the name of one single bank—whose total blocked assets are of the order of 60 crores of rupees, in addition to considerable liquid assets. I have got some personal experience of some of these Banks. I was a resident of Delhi for the better part of 20 years—seventeen years and I banked with one of these displaced banks during this period. I was one of the creditors. Especially at the time when after partition there were that moratorium and the decisions of the Punjab High Court to arrive at certain settlements, I had taken part. A part of my money was then locked up. The point I am trying to make is this Today we find these displaced banks are in a very peculiar position, having as much as 4½ crores of rupees locked up in West Pakistan which they are unable to get hold of. You will see that immediately after partition, most of the depositors have transferred their accounts to India, with the result that these depositors have become the creditors in India, whereas the fixed assets of banks are locked up in Pakistan. The position is a sort of imbalance in the banks' business activities.

I do not want to weary the House with what has been done but I am very much concerned with one or two important facts which arose during the last two or three years. First, there was a moratorium for three months. I am referring to my own personal experience There was the sanction of the High Court for the creation of a closed fund and the operation of a new fund. I am given to understand that as much as 80 to 90 per cent of the total moneys belonging to the closed fund accounts of these displaced banks, which are members of the association I have referred to, have already been paid. The result is that for a balance of ten per cent. they are now being faced with contentious liquidation proceedings. I am also given to understand that—from personal knowledge of this question ranging over a number of years—about three years ago the Finance Ministry agreed to the request of the displaced banks to secure extension of the period of limitation for suits against their displaced debtors. You are aware that in the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) there was a Bill passed—the Displaced Persons Institution of Suits and Legal Proceedings (Amendment) Bill, which unfortunately did not secure this extension as desired by the banks, which as I have said was endorsed by the Finance Ministry of the time.

You are aware that in 1949, the Banking Companies Act gave several exemptions to these banks from which they have benefited towards rehabilitation. Such of the benefits accruing from the exemptions of the Banking Companies Act were nullified, unfortunately, by the Displaced Persons (Debts Adjustment) Act of 1951, with the result that the displaced banks found that the contractual relations between debtors and creditors have been nullified, and that a new statutory class of contracts have been brought into existence. I

make a brief reference to these legislative enactments for one reason. Today, you find that the Rehabilitation Ministry in particular is drawing a distinction between a displaced person and a displaced bank. Actually the vast majority of displaced persons are the ex-creditors of the displaced banks. I personally know of a number of legal proceedings now pending before the courts for the liquidation of these displaced banks. Looking from another angle, you will find that the operation of these two laws, apparently reflects—subject to correction from the Finance Minister—a sort of conflict of approaches between the Finance Ministry and the Rehabilitation Ministry and the displaced persons have protection against the displaced banks. As I said, even these twelve banks which have banded themselves into this association have some Rs. 4½ crores locked up, and even if two annas in the rupee are made available, I am convinced they will be able to meet not less than ten per cent. of the total obligations which are still outstanding to be paid to displaced persons. This is not a banking affair at all. It is a problem of human misery. I do hope sincerely that the Finance Minister, with his usual helpful approach to these problems, will bring in legislation to give extension of time for the payment by these displaced banks of the instalments due to displaced creditors. I do not think the House would consider this an unreasonable request. You know the controversy that has occurred as regards the distinction between displaced persons and their obligations and displaced banks and their obligations. Let there be no mistake that I am against the interests of displaced persons. By all means, rehabilitate them, but in rehabilitating them do not try to enforce in the law of the land a particular type of contract which militates against the actual contractual interests of displaced banks.

Recently, we have seen the report of the Banks Liquidation Proceedings Committee. It was presided over by Mr. Mitra, and the report was signed on the 31st December of last year. I would only quote one passage from this report, which to my mind puts the whole thing in its proper perspective and emphasizes the need for legislative change, as otherwise these displaced banks will have to go to the wall. I am quoting paragraph 90, which reads thus:

> "We, therefore, recommend that the Court, which has sanctioned the scheme of arrangement, be given jurisdiction to exercise the following powers in the case of any bank working under a scheme of arrangement at the date of the commencement of the legislation which may be undertaken pursuant to this report and on the application of such bank:
>
> (a) to excuse any delay in carrying out any of the provisions of the scheme of arrangement on proper grounds being shown and on such terms as the Court thinks fit;
>
> (b) to extend the benefit of the proposed summary procedure for the recovery of debts by filing a list of debtors;
>
> (c) for the purpose of settlement of the list of debtors to exclude any debtor from the benefit of the Displaced Persons (Debts Adjustment) Act, 1951, provided (1) that no final adjudication of the debt has been effected under the Act, and (2) on being satisfied, after hearing the debtor, that it is just and convenient that he should be excluded".

A few days ago, I put a supplementary question when this subject came up during questions, and the Parliamentary Secretary, Finance, was unable to say whether or not Government have examined those recommendations and whether or not they are prepared to implement those recommendations. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Finance to look into this question very sympathetically.

Otherwise, there is only one alternative and that is, let Government take over the banks and liquidate them themselves. My hon. friend would remember that his predecessor gave a number of assurances in the previous House that these banks would be given a certain number of years to rehabilitate themselves. So, either there is rehabilitation within a reasonable period of time, or the banks are closed: the alternatives are clear. Otherwise, it will be something like *trisankuswarga*. They can neither operate, because their funds are locked up in Pakistan, nor can they meet their obligations in any way. So, my last concrete suggestion would be: here are the assets of the displaced banks—I am talking of the members of the association, and not of the others, of whom some hold immeasurable assets in Pakistan—and the liquid and blocked assets can be estimated. Having estimated them, in the light of the discussions going on between

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India and Pakistan. I would appeal to my hon. friend to see that a portion of this money is made available to these banks, so that at least four to ten per cent. of the liabilities still outstanding on the closed accounts may be paid, and they can get rid of this millstone of the closed accounts in regard to which the displaced persons are forcing these banks into liquidation. Or, in the alternative, let Government take them over and finish the job themselves: that will be a humane process altogether.

Shri G. P. Sinha (Palamau *cum* Hazaribagh *cum* Ranchi): I support the demands under the Ministry of Finance. After independence, the financial condition of the country became serious due to the refugee problem, flood, drought etc. but it goes to the credit of the Finance Minister of the Central Government and his counterparts in the State Governments that we have been able to cross this dangerous period. At the moment, the urgent need is to draw the attention of the Government—both Central and State—to the village. There are big schemes before the country, but unless we do something for the village there will not be a proper enthusiasm in the country.

The problem facing the village today is twofold: the loss of purchasing power and lack of rural credit. Before some States passed restrictive laws against money-lenders and landlords, the latter were the only source of rural credit. There was thus great difficulty for agricultural credit. Of course, after independence, the Central Government and some State Governments have come forward and have started distributing short term loans and irrigation loans and while a huge amount has been diverted for reconstruction of the agricultural condition of the village, the method of distribution is defective. There is no proper assessment of the needs of the people. Whenever there is drought and consequent failure of crops, Government agencies rush in and distribute loans, but the needy persons are debarred. The assessing authority is the district authority and naturally there is no proper link by which an estimate of the need of rural credit can be made. Hence it is of the utmost importance that agencies should be created that will not only help Government in distributing the credit but that will actually add to our national savings scheme. If people find financial units in their own village, they will be encouraged. They will come forward with their surplus money.

Before the war, there was a slump in the agricultural market. The greatest village problem was rural indebtedness. The war came. Inflation also came. Prices of grains shot up. This created a headache for most of the State Governments, which fortunately they have got over.

Now, I would come to cottage industries. Every section of the House has expressed its deep concern over the problem of unemployment. Some Opposition friends levelled the charge that our Five Year Plan has not given proper attention to unemployment. That is true to some extent. But even in Russia, during their Five Year Plan period there was no total employment. No Plan and no country can guarantee total employment within a short time. The Government of India are having their own co-ordinated organisations and a few days ago when Mr. Agarwal, Congress Secretary, spoke on industries he said that the employment problem should get a high priority in planning. In fact, he suggested that cottage industries should be encouraged even at the cost of the mill industry. I for one am with him. But when people talk of cottage industries, they talk only of cottage textile industry. Today even if we give them employment, even if we give them finance, there might be some increase in employment, but tomorrow, they will again have to face the difficulty of finding a market. Hence the best way to proceed is to demarcate the field of large scale industry and cottage industry. Unless you do it, it is not possible to develop the country as well as keep the pace of employment increasing.

Today the field of public and private sector has been clearly demarcated: we have got a definite plan for it. But while we have a complete control over the public sector, it is not possible to develop it without adequate control over the private sector. Today what happens. Our knowledge of statistics is most meagre. Government has no control over the private sector, except that provided by the Development of Industries Act 1951. Under this Government can take over the management of an industry only if it is on the verge of collapse. Prevention is always better than cure. We may differ from the political set-up of Russia; we may differ from the Opposition Members, but we cannot allow the industrialists to have their own way and have an unrestricted hand. Whatever we have to do we have to do according to the plan and if we have to plan we have to plan

for the betterment of the entire country. I would suggest that not only in the public sector, but in the private sector as well Government must share the responsibility of management. There must be a Government nominee on the board of directors in every industry. The old conception that those who have invested their money can alone manage the industry has gone. Today the State has taken the responsibility of labour welfare, labour housing etc. Above all Government has subsidised food for the labour areas at the cost of the whole country. If the capitalists of this country today say that because Government has not invested any capital in the industry they should not interfere in the management and if we agree to it there will be no planning.

What happens today. The British Government has left behind them an efficient cadre of officials; but those officials have very little knowledge of industrial management. We have started huge projects in this country. Unless we give them proper opportunities to have sufficient knowledge of industries, I am afraid in future they will not be able to shoulder the responsibility of managing them.

I well remember, wile I was a student I was asked to write as essay on some rural scheme. I came, prepared my paper and handed it over to my professor. He said: this is a nice essay, but written in the drawing room. So, the directives issued by the present officials either from the Delhi Secretariat or the State Secretariat are just like my essay. They have got a beautiful theoretical knowledge of the entire country; they are men of calibre; but they have no experience. Unless they are given opportunities of industrial management, it is not possible to nationalise the industries.

I do agree we will have to follow a mixed system of economy. This has been followed in Russia and other countries as well. But the spirit in which it was followed in Russia must be imbibed here. We can allow the industrialists to thrive not at the cost of our nation, but to help our nation.

Let me now come to foreign investment. There has been wide criticism against foreign investments. Every section of the Opposition has made capital of it. Before independence foreign investment was a symbol of exploitation, with the result that we had our doubts about the intention of the foreign investors. But experience has shown that we cannot develop our industries unless we invite foreign capital to this country. By inviting foreign investment, we not only get the capital, but also the technical know-how. We would have to spend many years to know these things. The Development of Industries Act has provided sufficient safeguards against the exploitation of this country by foreign investors. Recently we have found that most of the foreign investors have been allowed only when they agree to a major share of indigenous capital also. That is a good sign. But there are also cases where foreigners have been exclusively given a chance to come and exploit the resources of our country. It is really horrifying when they ask for protection no protections should be given to foreign firms, because the primary consideration before Government is that they should be fully equipped. If they are afforded protection that will add to the miseries of the people and there is no point in having foreign investment.

Shri Shobha Ram (Alwar): In the first instance, I would like to congratulate the Government for accepting the recommendations of the Finance Commission and it is rather a happy sign to note that the principles adopted by the Finance Commission while determining the common divisible pool and its distribution among the different States are really very commendable.

The Finance Commission has not forgotten the basic principle that every State should be so equipped as to enjoy a reasonable prospect of maintaining its financial equilibrium and in case there is any deficiency of financial resources of the States that must be brought to an end.

In this connection I would like to refer to the Financial condition of the State of Rajasthan. I may refer to the report of the Indian States Finance Enquiry Committee 1948-49. It is on pages 88-89. It was clearly assured by the Government of India by accepting the Indian States Finances Enquiry Committee's report that apart from the share of divisible federal taxes referred to, the Rajasthan Government will in addition be entitled to all forms of grants-in-aid on capital or revenue account and financial and technical assistance from the Centre. But by the acceptance of the Commission's report we have found that no gain had accrued in addition to the share of the federal taxes, to the Government of Rajasthan. As a result of the financial integration agreement the State lost something like Rs. 2,79,00,000 and by way of the share

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of taxes on income and share in the Union excise duties the State has got only Rs. 260 lakhs plus Rs. 20 lakhs by way of grant for primary education in the State. That means the State has got nothing, as it was the duty of the Government of India to compensate the loss which has accrued to the State as a result of the Financial integration agreement.

Moreover, while the principles of the grants-in-aid were being discussed by the Finance Commission, the Finance Commission summarily rejected any grant-in-aid to be given on the basis of famine conditions. Rightly or wrongly, the reason advanced by the Finance Commission was that it was very difficult to make a forecast in advance for the purpose of determining the assistance that might be required. What I would like to submit in this connection is that so far as the State of Rajasthan is concerned, famine has become a permanent feature of the State. And I would like to quote a few instances in regard to the famine conditions obtaining in half of the parts of Rajasthan. We have been hearing about famine conditions obtaining in Rayalaseema, Hissar and the eastern parts of U.P. and certain districts of the Bombay State. I do not mean that more help should not have been given for helping the people of those areas. But I wish to say that on the floor of this House the case of Rajasthan in relation to the famine conditions obtaining there should not go unheard or unrepresented, though my friend Mr. Morarka had thrown some light on the subject. But on the basis of personal experience I would like to submit that there are ten out of twenty six districts in Rajasthan which are famine-affected ones. If I draw the attention of the House to the economic and social conditions and the food situation in those parts it will take me a long way. Still I would like to say a few words in regard to certain districts, and I would like to prove one thing, namely that famine has become a permanent feature there. In Jaisalmer, hardly one out of twenty years is a good year. The remaining nineteen years are famine years. In many districts of Jodhpur division, hardly two out of five years are good years. The remaining three years are famine years. Similar is the case with many of the districts in Udaipur division. Not to speak of the famine conditions, there are other deteriorating and bad conditions prevailing in certain districts of some divisions. In two or three districts of Jodhpur division I would submit that people have to bring water from a distance of fourteen to fifteen miles, and in every family one or two male members have been entrusted with the work of bringing water. So far as the food situation is concerned, I would submit that in three or four districts of Jodhpur division people have to live upon the seeds of the grass for six months in a year, and sometimes, when the years are very bad, for the whole of the year. A pertinent question was put to some people in those areas and they were given to understand that there are certain provinces in our country where people have the grain for the whole of the year. Those people were amazed at the very idea of it. Anybody who has gone from Delhi to Ajmer or from Madhyabharat to Ajmer by road would have noticed thousands of people migrating from Jodhpur division to Madhyabharat or Uttar Pradesh every year. They remain out for six months. After six months they again come to their homes and if there are chances of good rains they settle there, otherwise they will have to seek employment in other States. That is the condition there.

In view of these conditions I would like to submit that the case of Rajasthan, while the question of special grant was being considered by the Finance Commission, should not have been rejected. Not only that. If we go into the budget figures of Greater Rajasthan for four years or, even before that, if we go into the details of the figures of the Jodhpur Government, we would see that out of four years, except for one year, for the remaining three years the State Government of Rajasthan had to incur an expenditure of Rs. one crore on famine relief works yearly.

Therefore, in view of this financial difficulty in which the State Government of Rajasthan has been placed, something must be done. Because political consciousness is being awakened after the attainment of freedom, by people inside and outside, we cannot take this plea that Rajasthan, because it is financially backward must wait for the next twenty years for development activities.

In view of all these observations which I have made on the floor of this House I would like to submit that a special Committee should be appointed to go into the financial conditions of the State, and also to go into the details of the famine conditions obtaining there, and I would like to appeal to the Government that on the basis

of this report something substantial in the shape of special grant should be given to the State of Rajasthan. Unless this is done, for fifteen years to come the Rajasthan Government will not be able to undertake the development activities which have become inevitable after the attainment of freedom. We have launched the Five Year Plan and we want to see its successful implementation. But it is not possible unless the State Government finds some money for the development activities; and unless certain grant is given to the State Government no money is left with them for these activities.

The other point I would like to submit is in regard to the tobacco excise duty. Last year also I put a question in this connection. The present practice in regard to the tobacco excise duty is in contravention of rule 25 of the Central Excise Manual. I pointed out that the correct procedure regarding the tobacco excise duty was that as soon as the tobacco product was ready, the curer or the producer was bound to apply to the nearest Central Excise Inspector so that his ready product was weighed in the presence of the officer, and on the actual weighment of the product the excise duty was levied. That is the suggestion but what happens? Three months before the produce is ready, the officer enters the field and makes his survey and assessment of this crop as though on the basis of experiments, and levies a duty on the quantity of produce on the basis of such assessment. I put a question only last month that this practice must be stopped and the people should be made to understand the correct procedure and the correct law with which they are governed, but to my surprise and amazement I found the reply of the hon. Minister very amusing. In the first part of the reply the hon. Finance Minister had agreed with the suggestion that the Central excise law requires the tobacco curer to pay a duty immediately by applying to the nearest excise officer and getting the produce weighed in his presence. The latter part of the answer is this. In districts where tobacco is cultivated in a large number of plots scattered over wide areas, some of the producers fail to apply as aforesaid and prefer to dispose of the tobacco without payment of duty. The latter part of this reply is very amusing in the sense that under the rule of the Central Excise Manual, it had been made obligatory on the producer to apply to the nearest Central Excise Inspector for the weighment of his actual produce. If he does not apply and does not pay the duty, he cannot remove or dispose of the tobacco produce and if he does so, he is liable to be punished under Rule 9 of the Central Excise Manual. Therefore, when this is an offence, it cannot be said that some producers prefer to dispose of their tobacco produce without paying duty. It is wrong to say that.

The other point is that some producers fail to apply as aforesaid. It is a very strange thing. Three months before the produce is ready the officer measures the field and tells the cultivator or the producer, that such and such is the quantity on which he has to pay the levy and the assessment is based on the crop cutting experiments with the result that the tobacco producer is under the impression that whatever the Central Excise Inspector tells him is correct and the cultivator does not apply. Last year too I just made an appeal to the hon. Minister concerned that there were certain districts in the State of Rajasthan where such practice which is repugnant and unwarranted by law prevails. Therefore, the correct procedure in regard to the legal aspect of the problem must be publicised by the Government. The Inspector should issue a bulletin and should let the people know what is the correct procedure in regard to tobacco duty. What happens as a result of this vague assessment? Many people have been put to harassment for nothing. Sometimes when they produce four maunds they have to pay duty only for one maund and people who produce one maund sometimes have to pay duty for four maunds. It might be true that 50 per cent. of the people might be benefited, but why should 50 per cent. be put to a loss unnecessarily? Why should a producer who produces only one maund of tobacco pay duty for four maunds? Therefore, I appeal to the Government that the matter should be publicised and the correct procedure should be followed.

A last word about inter-State transit duties. Under the Federal Financial Agreement, it was so agreed that by 1st of April 1955, inter-State transit duties would be abolished so far as the State of Rajasthan is concerned. But what happened? I am rather constrained to find that despite a clear-cut agreement between the Centre and the State Government of Rajasthan, no steps have been taken by the Government of Rajasthan for the abolition of inter-State transit duties with the result

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that two years only are left. After two years, it will be the main concern of the Government of India to make up the deficit of the Government of Rajasthan which comes to nearly Rs. three crores. Therefore, in view of this, the Rajasthan Government should be advised to take certain steps in this regard. Otherwise, after two years, Rs. three crores will be an amount which the State Government cannot bear. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government that they should see that after two years the abolition of inter-State transit duties is totally achieved. Afterwards if the Government take recourse to article 306 by extending the period for five years more, it would have a very bad effect on the people. We are trying to win the confidence of the people and many a time we have declared that by the 1st of April 1955 there shall be the total abolition of the inter-State transit duties. Therefore, the Government of Rajasthan should take gradual steps from today so that after two years the Centre might not be faced with additional financial liability.

Shri Buchhikotaiah (Masulipatnam): At first, I understand the taxation measures of the Central Government are paradise for the vested interests and hell to the common bulk of the people because millions of rupees are given away as salaries for hundreds of foreign experts, crores of rupees are being drained away by foreign firms that supply us materials which can be easily manufactured in this country with Indian talent. The Finance Minister wanted to meet this year's expenditure by resorting to deficit financing to the extent of Rs. 110 crores. Why was this extreme step thought of? What is the defect in our financial policy? Have the Congress Government changed at least any drop of the policies handed over to them by the English Rulers or is the same colonial policy still allowed to continue? What steps have the Congress Government taken to improve the lot of the common man in this country and thus get more revenues to the exchequer? What is this unhelpful financial policy in relation to the poor and middle class peasantry? Has the Congress Government thought of improving the financial policy by bringing about radical changes in social and economic set-up? These are the problems one should think over seriously before entering into the detailed discussion of the financial policy. If these are not taken into consideration, if one thinks like the clever Finance Minister, then there may be no end for the vicious circle. In this connection, I am reminded like the finance Minister of a Telegu proverb:

Yentaperigina Gorreku Bettedutoke.

The meaning of the proverb is that the tail of the lamb cannot be increased however much an ingenious method is applied by the shepherd. So also, the financial policy of the Congress regime has in no way improved. Whatever may be the theoretical knowledge of economics of the Finance Minister, he will not be able to succeed without taking the practical life of the people into consideration. The financial policy which the Congress Government is blindly following is in no way different from the policy followed by the British rulers. Firstly, all of us know that the Britishers entered this country as traders and then became conquerors. So their policy was the policy of the trader to get profits at the expense of the consumer. Also, it was the policy of the conqueror, to suck the life blood of the conquered. In short, the financial policy of the Congress rule is colonial exploitation of the people. For example, a major portion of the industries, trade and commerce is in the hands of the foreign exploiters. Sixty to seventy per cent. of the jute industry and tea and coffee industries, gold, mica, and coal mines is in the hands of the British imperialists. When such is the economic condition of the country, how can Mr. Deshmukh expect more revenue from the people. He is consciously allowing the foreigners to suck 75 per cent. of the blood of the nation. Out of the remaining 25 per cent. he cannot dream of getting more as the share as the nation has to sustain and exist.

Even the meagre resources that are left by the imperialists are not evenly and properly taxed. If we look at the taxes, we can understand the mischievous character of the Congress taxation policy. 75:17 per cent. is the indirect taxation and about 25 per cent. is the direct taxation. That means, 75:17 per cent. of the revenue is extracted from the common man. Like a clever business man the Congress Government is robbing the common man every day of his necessaries and comforts of life. For example, there are certain taxes on food articles: there is an excise duty on cloth, an excise duty on sugar, kerosene, matches cigarettes, bidis and what not: on everything that enters into the daily necessities of the Common man. But, what a great relief has been shown to the cousins of the

Congress Government, the big landlords, monopolist foreign business and Indian big capitalists? From the very inception of the Congress rule in this country, the above categories have been shown concession after concession. For example, from the beginning, the Congress regime began with tall talks of abolishing the zamindari. But, at whose cost? It is again at the cost of the common man of the country. What relief has the Congress Government given to the rural poor agriculturists? Nothing. On the other hand, the tax burden both by the Centre and the State Governments has been increased by leaps and bounds. He is made to pay taxes in the form of high prices for agricultural implements and manures. The old unjustifiable land revenue system introduced by the foreigners is still continued in the States. Even the lands occupied under the grow more food scheme are highly taxed by your State Governments. As such, his condition is very poor. Unless he is given relief by introducing a progressive land taxation system, and thus improving his standard of living, the Government cannot get more revenues from him.

Take the case of another kind of exploited worker. He is the worker in the factory, in the office or in the field. Due to the bankrupt financial policy of the Congress regime, the national industrialists, bankers and the rich agriculturists are forced to pay low wages to the workers. The result is, the standard of living of the worker is going down and down with the consequent result of inefficiency, and fall in production. Therefore, more things are not produced and more things are not consumed by the workers. Let me remind the House about the beautiful words of Pandit Nehru when the Congress was in battle front with the then enemies, the Britishers. I will read his words:

> "Many of the problems we have to face are the problems of vested interests, mostly created or encouraged by the British Government. The interests of the Rulers of the Indian States are often thrown upon us and they clamour for protection. The unhappy millions who really need protection are almost voiceless and have no advocates."

Taking these words as the background and putting the present taxation system of the Congress Government side by side, I want to put one straight and simple question to the Finance Minister. Is not the present taxation system of the Congress Government against the past promises and dignity of the congress? The answer from any common man to this question is 100 per cent, yes. But, I want to know from the Finance Minister.

Some Hon. Members: He says 'Yes'.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Shri Buchhikotaiah: Even now, if the Congress Government wants to get out of this crisis, my concrete and constructive suggestions are:

(1) The peasants who grow cotton, paddy, tobacco and other crops, and our bulk of industrial workers who by their immense capacity, produce all varieties of articles for our consumption, and our patriotic national industrialists must be consulted through their organisations before the taxes are imposed. (2) The taxation system must be thoroughly revised progressively immediately. (3) The vast wealth of the Princes which once belonged to the nation must be taken and utilised for the peoples cause. (4) The 500 crores of rupees that are to be paid as compensation to the zamindars must be stopped and utilised for national development. (5) Confiscation of all foreign exploited wealth must be done. (6) The sum of Rs. 200 crores which is being given away annually by way of interests and profit charges to Britain must be stopped. (7) Because our economy is depending entirely on agriculture, the Centre should give instructions to the State Governments that they should introduce a progressively changed land revenue system. (8) National technique and talent must be encouraged in all forms of production. We are looking for American aid and help. The one wellknown Gandhian economist Mr. Kumarappa has criticised the dangers in American aid. This must be seriously considered. (10) Severe steps must be taken to improve the lot of the worker in the industry and the tiller in the field.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): Is the hon. Member reading from the Communist manifesto?

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Nambiar: The Communist manifesto is sold in the market; he can buy.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member need not make a counter interruption.

Shri Buchhikotaiah: The other day, the Finance Minister compared the

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Communists to a good-for-nothing mother who neither feeds nor allows the child to beg. I am afraid, if the present taxation policy continues further more, not only one child, but all of us, including our Finance Minister, will become beggars

Shri Nambiar: He will never allow himself to become a beggar.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी (जिला हमीरपुर) : मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय को कहूं या नहीं कि वे धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं, किन्तु वे तो धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं ही। कारण जिन परिस्थितियों में और जिस समय उन्होंने वित्तमंत्रालय रूपी रथ के संचालन का भार संभाला था उस समय पर वह रथ किसी विशिष्ट पथ पर और किसी विशिष्ट दिशा पर अग्रसर हो चुका था। इसलिये जिस समय उन्होंने इस मंत्रालय का संचालन भार स्वीकार किया था उस समय उनके लिये यह मार्ग अवशेष नहीं था कि वह मार्ग बदल सकें अथवा किसी दूसरे पथ पर जा सकें। उन्हें तो उस रथ को उसी मार्ग पर चलाना था। हां उस में कुछ ऐसे सुझाव रखे जा सकते थे और दक्षता दिखाई जा सकती थी कि वह तीव्र गति से चल कर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर पहुंच सकें। आपको याद होगा कि सन् १९५० में हमारी पंचवर्षीय योजना की नींव पड़ चुकी थी और उसी समय से पंचवर्षीय योजना की ओर हमारा देश निर्माण की दिशा में अग्रसर हो चला था। इसलिये वित्तीय विभाग की ओर से जो बड़ी बड़ी नीतियां थीं वह निर्दिष्ट हो चुकी थीं और ऐसी परिस्थितियों में वह इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ विशेष रूप से नहीं कर सकते थे। ऐसा उनके लिये सम्भव नहीं मालूम पड़ता था। फिर भी वह धन्यवाद के पात्र इसलिये हैं कि यद्यपि जान मथाई साहब, जो उनसे पहले वित्त मंत्री थे और जिन की वित्तमंत्रणा सर्वसाधारण के प्रति उपेक्षा तथा उच्चतर श्रेणी के पक्ष में थे के बजट के ही आधार पर वह रहे हैं और उस में कोई विशेष तबदीली नहीं की है फिर भी इस बजट में जो छोटे छोटे लोगों को उन्होंने थोड़ी सी सुविधायें दी हैं वे सराहनीय हैं और इससे अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि उनका मस्तिष्क किस तरफ जा रहा है। फिर भी मैं एक बात उनसे विशेष रूप से कहूंगा। उन्होंने अपनी बजट स्पीच के सिलसिले में इस सदन का ध्यान एक बात की ओर खींचा था। उन्होंने एक गरीब आदमी के पांच रुपये साल के दान के बारे में बताया जो कि यह रुपया हर साल प्रदान करता है। मैं समझता हूं कि वह व्यक्ति यह पांच रुपया इसलिये नहीं देता है कि इससे कोई हमारे बजट में बहुत वृद्धि हो बल्कि वह इसलिये देता है कि उसकी श्रेणी के जो लोग हैं उनकी ओर आपका ध्यान जाय और बजट के समय स्मर्ण होने पर, उस वर्ग के लिये आप कुछ करें। मैं यह अवश्य कहूंगा कि आप ने पहले साल के बजट में उस वर्ग के लिये कोई विशेष सहायता देने का वक्तव्य नहीं दिया है और इस वर्ष भी उसके वर्ग के लोगों को निराश रहना पड़ा है। इसके लिए खेद है। इसलिये मैं प्रार्थना करता हूं कि जिस छोटे आदमी की तरफ से आपको पांच रुपया मिलते हैं उसके वर्ग के लोगों पर ध्यान दें और उन को आप सहायता दें तथा इसके लिये प्रचुर मात्रा में कुछ प्रयत्न करें।

6 P.M.

सबसे बड़ी बात जो आपके बजट के भाषण में मालूम हुई वह यह है कि फाइनेन्स कमीशन ने जो रिपोर्ट पेश की है उसे गवर्नमेंट ने स्वीकार कर लिया है। इसके अनुसार मालूम हुआ है कि २१ करोड़ रुपया पूर्व वर्ष से अधिक आपने विशेष रूप से रियासतों में वितरण के लिये दिया है। लेकिन इतनी बड़ी रिपोर्ट

पर, जो कि २०० पेज में है इस संसद् में कोई वाद विवाद नहीं हुआ और न कोई बहस हुई। मैं आप का ध्यान इस तरफ आकर्षित करूंगा कि जो छोटे छोटे से विधेयक सदन में प्रस्तुत होते हैं उनके ऊपर जनरल डिसकशन होता ह फिर उन क धाराओं पर विवाद होता है और फिर अन्तिम विवाद होता है। लेकिन इस २०० पेज की रिपोर्ट पर इस सदन में कोई वाद विवाद नहीं हुआ। केवल यह सूचना दे दी गई कि सरकार ने इसे स्वीकार कर लिया है। मुझे खुशी है कि इसे सरकार ने स्वीकार कर लिया है लेकिन यह ज्यादा अच्छा होता अगर हमें इस फाइनेन्स कमीशन की रिपोर्ट पर विचार करने का अवसर मिल जाता और यही प्रजा-तांत्रिक प्रणाली से कार्य करने का ढंग है।

हमने देखा है कि रियासतों के लिये और प्रदेशों के लिये जो आप ने पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत पुनर्निर्माण की योजना बनाई है या विविध और योजनायें हैं, उसमें यह ध्यान नहीं रखा गया है कि किस अंग को कितना पुष्ट करना चाहिये। सन् १९३५ में जब कि गवर्नमेंट आफ़ इंडिया ऐक्ट पास किया गया था उस समय अंग्रेज सरकार के तत्वावधान में एक इंडियन फाइनेन्शल इन्क्वायरी कमेटी बिठाई गई थी। उन्होंने भी यह महसूस किया था कि (यह पिछड़े हुए भागों में उन्नति संभवित करने के संबन्ध में है) :

"At the same time, it is equally clear that some Provinces are intrinsically better off than others and at the moment less urgently in need of additional resources, and it is both fair and inevitable that a certain measure of corrective should be applied even if it means that Provinces which have been able to attain higher standards of administration should now, to a slight extent have to progress more slowly".

ताकि जहां पर उन्नति नहीं हो पाई है वहां भी उन्नति हो सके। मैं आप से यह अर्ज करूंगा कि चाहे "क" भाग की स्टेट हो, या "ख" भाग की स्टेट हो या "ग" भाग की स्टेट हो जगह जगह पर पिछड़े हुए इलाके और पिछड़े हुए लोग हैं। लेकिन आप ने क्या किया है कि जो लोग सम्पन्न हैं जिनका पेट भरा है उनसे आप कहते हैं कि लीजिये थोड़ी भूख होगी रसगुल्ले खा लीजिये लेकिन जो भूखे मर रहे हैं उनसे आप कहते हैं कि आप दुर्बल हैं आपका स्वास्थ्य तभी ठीक होगा जब आप एक हफ्ते या अधिक का उपवास और करें। आपकी पुनर्निर्माण की नीति इस प्रकार की है कि जो सम्पन्न हैं उनको और सम्पन्न बनाया जा रहा है लेकिन जिनके पास कोई साधन नहीं। न रेलें हैं, न सड़कें हैं, न उद्योग हैं और न अन्य साधन हैं उनको आपने साधन देने की कोशिश नहीं की है। हमारे मित्र श्री एस० एन० दास साहब ने आपको कृषि के विषय में सुझाव दिये हैं। इसी सम्बन्ध में, मैं आपका ध्यान एक दोहे की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं जो यह प्रकट करता है कि जिस के अधिकार में दूसरों का उत्तर दायित्व हो वह कैसे निर्वाह करे। दोहा यह है :—

मुखिया मुख सो चाहिये खान पान को एक
पालहि पोषे सकल अंग तुलसी सहित विवेक।

इसका अर्थ यह है कि खाये तो मुंह लेकिन उससे सारे अंग का पालन पोषण हो। यदि ऐसा हो तो हमारा देश प्रगति-पथ पर अग्रसर हो सकता है। आपने बिड़ल जैसे लोगों को बाल बियरिंग इंडस्ट्री पर प्रोटेक्शन दिया है। यह एक व्यक्ति का उद्योग है। उसको आप ने संरक्षण दिया। लेकिन आप ने विद्यार्थियों के लिये रजिस्ट्री और पारसल का खर्चा बढ़ा दिया है।

हमारे भारतवर्ष में कई करोड़ विद्यार्थी हैं और उन को आठ आने पारसल करने का देना पड़ेगा और छः आने देना पड़ेगा

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रजिस्ट्री करने का। इस तरह जिस किताब का मूल्य केवल एक रुपया है, उस का पैकिंग पोस्टेज और रजिस्ट्रेशन व्यय मिला कर दो रुपये हो जाते हैं। हम कहते हैं कि हम विद्या का प्रसार करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन क्या हम ने सोचा कि इस तरह से हम विद्यार्थियों की भलाई कर सकेंगे और इस तरह से विद्या का प्रसार करने में सहायता कर सकेंगे ? नहीं।

इसी तरह और भी बातें हैं जिन की तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित कर सकता हूं। लेकिन सब से बड़ी बात जिसकी ओर जान मथाई और दूसरे मंत्रियों का ध्यान गया और आप का भी ध्यान गया वह है कि देश में जो टैक्स लगाने के तरीके हैं उन पर गौर करना। आप ने कर-नीति अन्वेषण समिति नियुक्त की है। मुझे खुशी है कि आप ने किसी शुभ काम के लिये श्री गणेश किया है। वह अच्छा है, एक काम किया। एक और बात है आप ने अनेक प्रकार के टैक्स लगाये लेकिन आप का ध्यान एक ओर नहीं गया और वह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। आप देखें कि इस देश में कई लाख कर्मचारी हैं और उन की जो परिस्थिति है वह आप जानते हैं। किन्हीं को अधिक तनख्वाहें मिलती हैं, किन्हीं को कम मिलती हैं। इसको आप ने समानता का रूप नहीं दिया। जब कि एक निश्चित स्तर पर रहने का समान अधिकार है। इसके अतिरिक्त सब से बड़ी गौर करने की बात है ऊपर वाली आय की छिपी हुई आय जो हमारे महावीर त्यागी जी ने खोज कर के निकाली और उस पर इनकमटैक्स लगा दिया। यह तो ठीक हुआ। लेकिन आप ने क्या यह देखा है कि जब शादी वगैरह होती है तो लड़के वाले से पूछा जाता है कि तुम्हारी तनख्वाह कितनी है तो मालूम होता है कि ७५ रुपये। और पूछते हैं कि ऊपर की आमदनी क्या है तो ३५० रुपये। मैं पूछता हूं कि इस तरह की जो ऊपर की आमदनी है, जो इस तरह की आमदनी नौकरियों में लोगों को होती है, उस पर क्या टैक्स लगाने की बात आप ने सोची है। क्या आप ने कभी यह भी सोचा कि इस तरह की आमदनी को कम करने का क्या तरीका है ? आप के सामने दो मार्ग हैं ? या तो यह कि इस को बन्द करने के रास्ते निकालिये या इस पर भी टैक्स लगाइये।

श्री राघलाल व्यास: जेल भेजना पड़ेगा।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : जेल भेजिये, चाहे जो कीजिये। लेकिन जब तक आप इस किस्म की आमदनी को बन्द नहीं करेंगे तब तक देश का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा आगे बढ़ने में असमर्थ रहेगा। इसलिये मैं आप का ध्यान इस आमदनी की ओर भी दिलाऊंगा।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री ने बताया कि प्रतिव्यक्ति (पर कैपिटा) टैक्स का प्रतिशत जो हमारे देश में लगाया जाता है वह दूसरे देशों की अपेक्षा कम है। लेकिन मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि पर कैपिटा आमदनी, प्रति व्यक्ति की जो आमदनी दूसरे देशों में है और जो प्रति व्यक्ति आमदनी हमारे देश भारतवर्ष में है, उस में क्या अनुपात है और उस अनुपात को लगा कर आप देखिये कि जो टैक्स लगता है उस में क्या अनुपात है। मैं कहता हूं कि ५० रुपये तनख्वाह वाले आदमी पर अगर आप दो रुपये टैक्स लगाते हैं और एक हजार रुपये तनख्वाह वाले से भी दो रुपये लेते हैं तो उस पचास रुपये वाले के लिये तो यह होगा कि दो रुपये लेंगे तो उस के सिर पर लगाने का, तेल नहीं आवेगा, या वह नमक नहीं खरीद सकेगा या दाल नहीं खरीद सकेगा, जब कि एक हजार रुपये पाने वाले के लिये दो रुपये या पांच रुपये की कोई बात नहीं है वह आसानी से उसे दे सकता

है और उसकी किसी आवश्यकता पर कोई रोक न लगेगी। जब तक नीचे के स्तर के लोगों की आमदनी का स्तर आवश्यकताओं के धरातल तक नहीं पहुंचती तब तक इस कर नीति से देश का कल्याण नहीं।

आप का उद्योग को बढ़ाने की तरफ ध्यान गया। आप ने गृह-उद्योग की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया है। लेकिन क्या आप ने इस ओर भी ध्यान दिया है कि देहाती क्षेत्रों की क्या हालत है। देहात में हर क्षेत्र में जब तक आप ध्यान नहीं देंगे, जब तक उनकी वृद्धि के लिये आप कोई उपाय नहीं करेंगे, जब तक उन की आर्थिक परिस्थिति को ठीक करने की ओर आप ध्यान नहीं देंगे, तब तक समूचा देश आगे नहीं बढ़ेगा। जब तक देश का देहाती क्षेत्र आगे नहीं बढ़ेगा, तब तक शहर के क्षेत्रों की चाहे कितनी उन्नति हो, सारा देश आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता इस में कोई उल्टी बात नहीं है, यह कटु सत्य है।

एक दूसरी बात यह है कि आज जो आई० सी० एस० और अन्य कर्मचारीगण हैं उन की क्या परिस्थिति है इस को आप देखिये। मुझे एक वाक्य याद आ गया है, एक बड़े आदमी ने कहा था और हमारे फायनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब जानते हैं कि वह कौन व्यक्ति है। आप ने बताया था कि हम राष्ट्रीयकरण अभी एकदम नहीं कर सकते। राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की बातें बहुत आती हैं, लेकिन राष्ट्रीयकरण करने में कई बातें हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में जो हमें दो मिसालें दी गई वे बहुत ही मजेदार हैं। वह यह है कि अगर एक मिल में या दुकान में आग लग जाती है तो रात की वहां का जो मालिक है वह क्या करता है। यह उस का व्यक्तिगत मामला है। वह एक मामूली व्यक्ति है वह रात को दो बजे भी आग लगेगी तो दौड़ कर आग बुझाने जायेगा और तन मन धन से बचाने की कोशिश करेगा। लेकिन आप के जो कर्मचारीगण हैं, उन में क्या कोई भी जो बड़ी तनख्वाह पाने वाला है, वह गवर्नमेंट के कार्यालय में इतनी तन्मयता रखता है कि आग लगने की खबर मिलने पर और आग लगने पर क्या वह दौड़ेगा और आग बुझाने का इसी प्रकार प्रयत्न करेगा? कदापि नहीं। तो जब तक आप अपने कर्मचारियों में इस तरह की भावना पैदा नहीं करेंगे, देश आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता। जब तक देश में लोग केवल तनख्वाह का ख्याल करने वाले होंगे जिन को तनख्वाह का पहले ख्याल होगा तब तक देश आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता और न ऐसे कर्मचारियों से देश आगे बढ़ सकता है। इसलिये आप का वर्तमान में यह प्रथम कार्य होना चाहिये कि आप के जो कर्मचारी हैं उन में ऐसी चेतना पैदा करें कि वे अपनी नयी परिस्थिति को समझें। अंग्रेज यहां से चले गये और उन के साथ वह पुरानी भावना खत्म हो गयी। आज तो हमारे देश में संविधान लागू हुआ है। इसलिये उस के आधार पर जो परिस्थिति पैदा हो गयी है उस के अनुसार हमारे कर्मचारी मंडल को बदलना पड़ेगा। आप उन की वेश भूषा, उन के रहन सहन को देखिये और एक साधारण नागरिक की वेश भूषा और रहन सहन को देखिये उन में जमीन आसमान का अन्तर है। जब तक हमारे देश के बड़े व्यक्ति और जो हमारे देहात का नागरिक है वे तमाम स्तर पर नहीं आ जाते हैं, उन के रहन सहन के वातावरण में जब तक तब्दीली नहीं होती, तब तक आप के बजट के आंकड़ों से काम नहीं चल सकता। आप देखिये कि हमारे देहात में कितनी अनवृत्ति (अनएम्प्लायमेंट) है, कितना वहां जीवन का स्तर नीचा है। इसका क्या कारण है? क्या इस असमानता को दूर करना हमारा कर्त्तव्य

[श्री एम० ऐल० द्विवेदी]

नहीं है ? इसलिये मैं आप का ध्यान इस तरफ़ भी आकर्षित करता हूं कि जब कभी आप बजट का मसौदा बनायें, तो ऐसा मसोदा भी बनायें, आप एक ऐसा आयोग (कमीशन) भी बनायें कि जो इस क़िस्म का काम ठीक तरीक़े से चला सके जिससे ऊंच नीच की खाई मिट सके ।

कृषि (एग्रीकलचर) के बारे में मैं यह कहने के लिये बाध्य हूं कि सरकार की नीति इस सम्बन्ध में साफ़ नहीं है और एक भ्रम उत्पन्न करने वाली नीति है । बड़े बड़े मिनिस्ट्रों के बंगलों पर खेती का काम होता है और काफ़ी रुपया उन जगहों पर खेती करने के वास्ते खर्च किया जाता है । हमने ट्रैक्टरों के लिये लोगों को तक़ावी दी और भी दूसरे बड़े बड़े काम किये, लेकिन मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि दस हज़ार रुपया जो एक व्यक्ति को दिया जाता है और वह ट्रैक्टर खरीदने के लिये उसको दिया जाता है, वह ट्रैक्टर तो खरीद लेता है, मगर उसको चलाना नहीं जानता और २०० एकड़ ज़मीन भी उससे नहीं जोत पाता और नतीजा यह होता है कि वह दस हज़ार रुपया बेकार चला जाता है, इसके विरुद्ध मैं आपको बतलाऊं कि आज २०० रुपये में एक बैल आता है और एक गरीब किसान को अगर एक बैल की ज़रूरत होती है तो आप उसको एक बैल के लिये रुपया नहीं देते, नतीजा यह होता है कि ट्रैक्टर तो एक तरफ़ बेकार पड़ा रहता है और बैल के लिये अगरउसे २०० रुपये आपसे मिल जाते तो वह पांच एकड़ ज़मीन प्रति आदमी के हिसाब से जुत सकती थी और एक की अपेक्षा पचास आदमियों को अगर आप वही रुपया दे कर बैल दिला सकते तो २५० एकड़ ज़मीन अधिक जोती जा सकती थी, वह भी नहीं जुत पाती है । एक किसान जिस का एक बैल मर गया हो अगर दो सौ रुपये उसे दिये जायें तो वह खेती कर सकता है और ज़मीन की जुताई कर सकता है, लेकिन ट्रैक्टराइजेशन की नीति से यह हो रहा है कि एक तो किसान लोग ट्रैक्टरों को चलाना नहीं जानते और दूसरे यहां पर उसके लिये कोई वर्कशापस नहीं हैं, और अगर उसका कोई पुर्जा बिगड़ जाता है तो सब काम ठप्प हो जाता है और बम्बई से इंजीनियर बुलाना पड़ता है जिस का खर्चा क़रीब २५० रुपये से भी अधिक बैठता है और इसलिये जब तक उसके लिये वर्कशाप्स न हों और उसके पुर्जों की जानकारी न हो तबतक उस का चलाया जाना कोई लाभप्रद नहीं सिद्ध होता और उल्टे काम ठप्प हो जाता है । व्यय तो दस हज़ार हुआ लेकिन फल नगण्य ही रहा । कृषि में आशातीत उन्नति न होने और सरकार के प्रति अप्रियत बढ़ने का यह एक कारण है । उदाहरण के लिये मैं बतलाऊंगा कि विन्ध्यप्रदेश ही में करीब २९ लाख एकड़ ज़मीन ऐसी पड़ी है जो कृषि के काबिल है और वहां पर खेती नहीं हो रही है, लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि मिनिस्टरों के बंगलों में गेहूं इत्यादि की खेती हो रही है, मैं यह नहीं कहता कि बंगलों में खेती नहीं होनी चाहिये, हमें वहां गेहूं उगाना चाहिये । लेकिन २९ लाख एकड़ ज़मीन जो कृषि क़ाबिल है, वहां आपके यह ट्रैक्टर्स क्यों नहीं पहुंचते और वहां उनके द्वारा खेती क्यों नहीं कराई जाती है, आपके सेंट्रल ट्रैक्टर्स आरगेनाइजेशन का ध्यान उधर क्यों नहीं जाता । इसी तरह से आपका ध्यान इसी प्रकार के दूसरे खेती योग्य हिस्सों की तरफ़ जाना चाहिये ।

मैं वित्त मंत्री का बहुत अभारी हूं जो उन्होंने इनकमटैक्स के मामले में सुविधा

(रिलीफ़) दी है और दूसरे मामलों में भी जो उन्होंने छोटे आदमियों का ख्याल रक्खा है, उसके लिये मैं उनका हृदय से आभारी हूं। इससे यह सिद्ध हो जाता है कि उनको गरीब आदमियों का ख्याल है और वह उनकी सहायता भी करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन वह ऐसी संकुचित परिस्थितियों में घिरे हुए हैं कि कुछ विशेष कर नहीं पाते, यह पंचवर्षीय योजना जो हमारे सामने है, इसको देखते हुए मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि वह इस पांच साल के बीच में ऐसे नये उपाये और हल अवश्य खोजने में समर्थ होंगे जिससे देश वास्तव में आगे बढ़ सके और जनता की अवस्था में वांछित सुधार हो।

अन्त में मैं सारी मांगों का पूर्ण समर्थन करते हुए और आप को धन्यवाद देते हुए अपना स्थान ग्रहण करता हूं।

Shri Lokenath Mishra (Puri): At the time of the General Discussion of the Budget, the hon. Finance Minister ended his reply by saying that we should have faith in the driver that he is, and I have that faith in the driver. It is only with that faith, that I beg to submit a few facts about my State of Orissa. Although I do not know the trickeries of finance, I know as a common man at least one thing that if there is nothing in my pocket, and I have to spend something, I shall either earn, or beg, borrow or steal. My grievance against the Central Government is that they are not allowing us to earn. The only alternative therefore for us is either to beg, borrow or steal Begging is borrowing and, as we have found in the case of the Hirakud project, it brings only the whole load over us, and there is a serious apprehension that ultimately it may not produce the results that will go to the credit of our State or the Centre.

You will be surprised to note that the entire revenues of my State are only Rs. seven crores, and basic expenditure in terms of pay, allowances etc. comes to about Rs. six crores, leaving only Rs. one crore, and as the hon. Minister knows, we shall have to spend about Rs. 17 crores on planning in my State. In agricultural income-tax, or sales tax on petrol or in other taxes, we have reached the maximum, and there is no possibility at all of raising any more taxes whatsoever to meet the expenses for the working out of the Plan.

As the hon. Minister is aware, my State is a State that supplies the requisitioned paddy to the deficit States in the Union. But what has happened here? We sell our paddy to feed the deficit areas, at a rate which is about 100 per cent. cheaper than that of imported foodgrains, and about 50 per cent. cheaper than the price available inside the Union. But this sacrifice at what cost? Today people may think that Orissa is a surplus State in paddy, and they are never tired of repeating that, but I would submit to you that Orissa is not so surplus as it is supposed to be. Orissa sells paddy, because it cannot do without selling. It is one of the money crops for Orissa, that the Orya has to sell in order that he may have some money to make the other necessary purchases. In spite of these difficulties, we are supplying as much paddy as possible as is required by the Food Department, but the very Food Minister Shri Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, who had gone there sometimes ago promised that some special consideration should be shown to Orissa and that a sum of at least Re. one per maund shall be given to the State either as subsidy or as a grant and I am sorry to learn that he has on return, swallowed his own promise, and it now comes to this that my State is not going to get anything on that account from the Centre.

Orissa is rich in minerals, rich in forests, and no poorer in human material also. We are selling minerals at a cheap rate. While this State sells manganese at Re. one per ton, the very same thing is sold in the market for Rs. 120, and when my State wants that either it should be given freedom to sell anywhere or be given more money, the Reserve Bank stands in the way and says 'No'. There are many other such commodities that we could sell and get more money, viz. sugarcane or jute. There also, I want to bring home to the hon. Minister that unless he is very sympathetic just and reasonable to my State, it will become poorer day by day. I would tell him that however much one may do at the Centre in regard to these big projects, unless the State executes the Plan properly, and unless they have the necessary finance to do so, and the necessary encouragement to implement these plans, everything will fall flat, because after all it is the State that has to execute the plans and the State's people are

[Shri Lokenath Mishra]

more interested in the State's business. There is talk of grow-more-food. Yes, we must grow more food, but you are really killing the goose that lays the golden egg. For instance, my State is a State which is growing enough of paddy, but the position is becoming so miserable that the farmers and peasants are getting more and more discouraged with the result that the surplus state of Orissa may turn out to be a deficit State before long.

Then I would like to tell you something about Hirakud. The Government may say that they are giving us a loan of about Rs. 109 crores, and say, again 'What more do you want?' That is the argument generally advanced against our demand, but I can tell you that this Rs. 100 crores is a loan, that carries interest, and that interest is first deducted at the time of accounting. We know how the money is being spent at Hirakud. We all know that, and the sub-committee on Hirakud, of the Public Accounts Committee, has put before this House, the real state of things as to what is happening at Hirakud. But there is one graver danger still; it may be that the Hirakud plan will succeed or it may be that it may not succeed to the extent that we would like it to succeed. But the real danger, which is a legacy of the war, and a legacy of the imperialism is the demoralization these mismanaged undertakings bring. What we had at the time of the war was cheap money, and that led to blackmarketing and demoralisation. And people who made black money became really the enemies of the country and blackened all they could. Now, what is happening in Hirakud? They are spending money like anything, and they are wasting money like anything. Some people are becoming poorer and poorer, and some are becoming richer and richer, and those people who become richer with cheap money become really corrupt. Not only are they corrupt, but they try to make others also corrupt. Even the poor people surrounding them begin to get demoralised, and they also start having their ambitions and desires for getting high things. But in the present circumstances, they can neither fulfil their desires nor can they go their own way. Therefore, there is the grave risk that by and round such projects we launch, there will be demoralisation in terms of the man, and cheap money flowing into the hands of people who really do not know how to spend it properly.

Therefore, my only submission to the Finance Minister, in whom I have real faith, is that we must see what State deserves consideration in what respect and how soon. You will be sorry to know, having spent so much money in the Hirakud dam, what we are doing. We are not really arranging things and planning for the consumption of the energy that will be coming out of it. There was one proposal for having an iron and steel plant installed in Orissa. There came competitors. I now hear that the energy that will be coming out from Hirakud would not reach cheaply the industrial centres, far away and there will be no iron and steel factory in Orissa. If Orissa is not a proper place or if Hirakud is not a proper place for having an iron and steel factory, why did you have the project at all there? I must submit that before launching on these big schemes we must have a plan and settle how to utilise that energy. Now having loaded Orissa with such a big loan, unless the Centre helps, how can we spend that energy? Not only Orissa but the whole of the Union will in the process go to poverty and all will be a waste.

There is a proposal to set up a State Industrial Finance Corporation to energise or to finance the small projects inside the State. I learn that my State wanted to establish one Industrial Corporation with about 20 crores of rupees. But where are 20 crores of rupees and where is poor Orissa? Therefore, the Orissa Government wanted some help from the Centre. But the Centre refused. If that is the case, I must humbly submit that whole plan is really misconceived. As I said at the time of discussing the plan, the plan seems to be lopsided. That means it is a plan the basic policy of which is 'carrying coal to Newcastle'. If there are advantages in Bombay, let us go there; if there are advantages in Calcutta, let us go there; if there are advantages in Bihar, let us go there. But that is an old theory. I should submit the whole of India should be taken as one nation and one country. Therefore, all projects and money should be regionally so distributed that there will be plenty, prosperity and improvement everywhere. But there is a real fear amongst us that those who cannot howl well suffer and the howling does not reach the proper quarters with any amount of favourable air. Therefore, really, we sometimes feel how best to make ourselves felt in this House? How is it possible for poor Provinces like Orissa and Assam to make their voices felt, and how could the wailings of these people reach the Himalayan heights of the big leaders who are much farther from us than our Provinces 900 or

1000 miles away? Therefore, there is still a big gap between the leaders and the representatives of the people, what to talk of the people whom we represent. Therefore, unless that gap is bridged, unless the Ministers and leaders feel with us, unless that distance is bridged, there is no chance of getting democracy to work, and unless democracy works there will be a gross failure of the entire plan, there will be sheer frustration, waste of money and the country will go to dogs.

Therefore, without wasting much time, I simply want to implore the Finance Minister, who knows how to earn money and who knows also how to distribute it properly, to look to Orissa in terms of the problems that have arisen day by day. Unless those problems are tackled and unless, as so many friends of mine in this House have already said, we take care as to what is the machinery for implementation of the plan, how the services should behave and how there should be economy, there is no way out.

I can give you one instance. Let us take the Council of States. The Council of States Members are now sitting idle, for about nine or ten days. The Government manages the programme so well that they come here, spend thousands of rupees and sit idle! I should say it is time now that the Council of States should be abolished. In this matter, I say that unless we take bold steps, unless we are allowed to think boldly and act boldly—if we become conservatives, if we try to placate people by simply humouring them, by simply appeasing them without coming face to face with the problems—there is no chance of a moral regeneration, there is no chance of liberating this country, there is no chance of free thought in this country, and these things lacking, the human element lacks, and when the human element lacks, everything lacks, however much of milk and honey you pour from foreign countries.

Mr. Chairman: Kumari Annie Mascarene.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): *rose—*

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. She has been called and Mr. Chaudhuri should not claim preference over her.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya (Muzaffarpur Central): You should be chivalrous enough. (*Interruptions*).

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): If any subject is to be discussed by the nation's representatives, it is finance. It is the very heart, the power house, of the body politic, and the income and expenditure of a nation can be compared to the auricle and the ventricle of the living heart. The Finance Minister is the brain behind that generates noble emotions in the living heart and distributes the resources of the State through a network of blood vessels permeating the various departments and helping the body politic to live. Under these circumstances, it is of great importance that the finances of the nation should be carefully handled and discussed by the Government as well as by the representatives of the people. It is of the greatest importance that every organ of this body politic should function so as to promote the healthy, peaceful, harmonious and sublime tranquillity of the nation. Any irregularity in the healthy functioning of the system, any mismanagement in the equitable distribution of funds, any over-feeding or under-feeding of departments, any addiction to vices like corruption, misappropriation and waste, are bound to react on the body politic and disintegrate and disrupt the body politic with virulent diseases like a carbuncle on the head giving rise to Jammu agitation or a rheumatic swelling on the feet causing Communist trouble in Travancore-Cochin State or a stomach-ache and indigestion causing the Andhra State, thus threatening the very life and existence of the nation. If you analyse these troubles, you will find that financial mismanagement and economic dissatisfaction are at the bottom of these troubles.

An Hon. Member: No.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I have the greatest respect for the Finance Minister as a man of incomparable merits. But that does not blind me to the fact that there is fiscal jugglery in the Finance Department, and the nation is being deceived by misrepresentations of facts and the nation is being mortgaged in the grip of foreign loans lent with the ulterior motive of exploiting and subjugating the nation. The policy of foreign financial bondage has benumbed the zeal of the common man to contribute his patriotic and whole-hearted co-operation to build up the nation.

An Hon. Member: Question.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: The Five Year Plan based on foreign capital is presented to the nation and with gleaming prospects and promises of schemes and yet there underlies behind this Plan Hydra-headed dragons exploiting the fiscal resources of the State through subterranean streams. The facts and figures presented in the Budget estimates belie the immensity of our expenses our deficits and our

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

State sinking into bankruptcy. The Budget estimates for the current year include amounts from the various reserve funds and the amount due to us from Pakistan to the extent of several crores of rupees and the amount loaned to the States to the tune of about 70 crores of rupees, not to speak of the unremunerative capital outlay. But, when the Budget is shorn of all this jugglery, it presents a very grave picture of deficit financing, much more deficit than the Finance Minister had represented it to be; and these superimposed by heavy expenditure up-setting the balance of Budget and driving the nation to sink into bankruptcy. It is surprising that one who is of the calibre of the Finance Minister, one who has controlled the steering of an economic or a financial institution like the Reserve Bank should have failed to make provision for a Sinking Fund to get rid of our national debt which has been accumulating during the last decade. If the figures given on page 1389 of the Demands, Volume III are correct, our national debt has accumulated during the last few years to Rs. 12 to 13 hundred crores at the end of 1953. I wish to ask the Finance Minister whether there is any economy measure to counteract this debt and reduce it year by year. He has failed, I regret to say, to conform to the fundamental principles of public finance and expenditure by allowing this debt to accumulate head over ears of the nation. On the other hand, there is no check exercised on the expenditure increasing every year in every department. In Civil Administration, it has increased as much as five times, from 14 crores to 71 crores during the last five years. Looking at the Cabinet —the population of the Treasury Benches has increased and is increasing faster than the population of India—the answers we get from some of them cross the sacerdotal limits of decency and culture so much so that the Chair is forced to expunge them from proceedings. The majority of them come to this House without preparation and the chorous of claiming notice is heard every moment we put a question. The tone of the Cabinet has sunk from what I had seen in 1949. What are we to understand? Is this the representation of character or the cream of character and efficiency? The Finance Minister closes his eyes to the waste and extravagance committed by his friends. For instance, the hon. Member from the other side had already mentioned the loss of two lakhs of rupees by adjourning the Council of States during the present session. We have to maintain a Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and a staff; what his work is, we know not. The opinion of this House is that he has failed miserably to plan the Parliamentary programme, so much so the other House had to be adjourned.

Shri K. K. Basu: He is not here.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: So, when the Government had to pass the PEPSU Budget and the Hyderabad Currency Bill they had to be inserted in the midst of the Budget proceedings. If only the session had been convened on the first of February as usual they could have so adjusted the programme that this loss could have been avoided. The amount spent on this Parliamentary Minister is a waste and he is wasting the money of the nation by mismanagement and incompetency.

An Hon. Member: What about Deputy Ministers?

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I have seen him moving about the House with an air that recalls to my memory the pride of the peacock, and an impression that makes us feel that he thinks: 'I have the sole monopoly of Parliamentary programme and there is none to dispute it'. The waste in every other department is just the same. The latest railway scandal cost us a few lakhs of rupees and the Public Accounts Committee had condemned it. Every scandal involves many lakhs and the cry of the Finance Department is 'lack of money'. The policy of prohibition has cost us a few crores of rupees. But we are unable to carry out the objective. There is illicit distillation of liquor all over the States and in my State very important Congress Leaders are involved in it. It is a great pity that the Congress is unable to practise what it preaches. That is my complaint against it. Thus there is very heavy deficit, increase of expenditure, waste and corruption driving the tax-payer to despair. But the Finance Minister is of the opinion that the economic condition of the common man has improved. It reminds me of a momentary ray, smiling on a winter's day, to be consumed and extinguished by clouds, dark and dreary, of financial mismanagement and incompetency. The Finance Minister has introduced his Budget proposals with the art of a diplomat, with sweeping bows and flowing courtesies, with his readjustments and reductions, all the time keeping high up in his sleeve a silken noose of further taxation to strangulate the common man.

Look at the heavy load of taxation. The rickshawala has to pay Rs. three

now instead of Rs. 1½ for his licence. The bullock-cartwala has to pay Rs. six instead of Rs. three. The small businessman is closing his business, because the small turnover is eating away the capital on account of income-tax. The big businessman, who is rich, has to pay income-tax, super-tax, agricultural income-tax, agricultural super-tax, sales tax, sales tax registration fees, land tax, water tax and—if he is running a transport business—vehicle tax, surcharge, petrol tax and hundreds of other taxes.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut Distt. —South): But not marriage tax.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: It is like a millstone hanging round his neck and the rich man feels, with the Estate Duty Bill coming on, that the future of his wife and children are going to be ruined.

Taxation has been the cause of ruin of many a nation. The path of history is strewn with records of national failures, which illustrate the vital nature of public finance. The Roman Empire had fallen on account of heavy taxation. Tax bankruptcy contributed to the French Revolution. The failure of Germany in 1918 had been due to its antiquated tax-structure. The war expenses of Edward I, the ship money of Charles I and the Finance Act of 1911 were deciding factors in the Parliamentary struggle in England. Similarly the Stamp Act and the tea chests incident led to the American Revolution. Taxation has been the cause of revolutions in the history of the world, both modern and ancient. Should we, at the beginning of our Republic, fan the cinders that are already fuming at the bottom of the substrata of society with further taxation? Should we cause that friction to create that dangerous spark which is bound to blow up the whole edifice of our structure? I hope that better sense will prevail.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: When I stood up a few minutes ago the question in my mind was: to be or not to be? Whether I should yield in favour of my hon. predecessor, or whether she should do the same with me?—that was the question in my mind. But after having heard her here, I think on the whole the House has been treated to a very decent speech which, naturally, as it comes from Miss Annie Mascarene the House appreciated to a very great extent. At the same time, the facts which she has presented before the House are not very convincing.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: They should have convinced you at least.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: I think the hon. Member had missed her chance with the Finance Ministry—there is nothing to laugh at—I mean, she had missed her chance in the sense that if she had said all that she has said today at the time of her delivering her Budget speech, we may have considered them—I mean her points—and cooly persuaded the hon. Finance Minister to take a certain line of action. I should think, on the whole, that the criticism which has been levelled at the Finance Minister is not of a very serious order, and it is rightly so. The hon. the Finance Minister has now more than one head in the House to consider the budgetary figures—I am not meaning his house in the Willingdon Crescent, I am meaning this House where he has more than two able assistants to help him.

In spite of all that has been said when I was thinking of my poor Province of Assam I was rather in a sort of quandary. When I saw him in an isolated room tenanted by him alone in the North Block I found him very generous in the matter of giving some help to a yarn mill in the State of Assam. He had promised—I will not say promised, but had expressed an opinion—that help would come for the starting of a textile yarn mill in that State. Unfortunately, the thing could not materialise. It was only a matter of rupees eight lakhs. I should say that it was not merely a question of money that was involved. It would have been a great boon which would have been conferred on the women folk of that State. As you perhaps know—and I have repeated it several times in this House—Assamese women are born weavers and their recommendation to matrimonial status is their deftness in the matter of weaving. Even then, if we have only yarn we would not care for a cloth mill, because in every household in Assam weaving goes on from 12 to 15 hours a day. But unfortunately the women folk of Assam do not get the same sympathy as other women get in other States. I have been always trying to solve that mystery. Is it because Assamese women use betelnuts and *pan* leaves and do not use lip-sticks? Is it because they put on coarse *makhalas* woven by themselves and do not put on fine silk as ladies in other parts of the country do? What is the reason which deprives them of the sympathy of the Finance Minister? This Finance Ministry was composed of two widowers sometime back and naturally they could not have so much sympathy for the women folk. Now we have got a married man in the Finan-

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ce Ministry; now we have got another bachelor put into it and it is more easy to terminate bachelorhood than widowerhood; especially when a bachelor is put in a position of honour and affluence his bachelordom can not surive long.

So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to reconsider the position of the womenfolk in Assam whose only demand is that they may be supplied with more yarn to weave their cloth. Am I too presumptuous in making this request, I should like to ask?

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: What authority have you to speak on behalf of the women of Assam?

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: Another point to which I should like to draw the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister is about the attitude of the Industrial Finance Corporation towards that State. I should like to be enlightened whether that Corporation has been able to bestow any help on that poor State. In this matter we are in, what they call, the position of *Trisanku*: we are neither on mother earth nor in the lap of heaven. When I approach the Finance Corporation for a large amount of loan they say that such a loan cannot be granted; and when I approach them for a smaller amount, say, Rs. 25,000 or so, they say that the Industrial Finance Corporation cannot accommodate for such a low sum. That is the position in which we are placed. I may be wrong, I may be right. But I should like the hon. the Finance Minister to see that the Industrial Finance Corporation proves to be more useful to poorer States.

It may not be suprising for the hon. Minister to know that in our State we have not got even a textile mill, although Orissa which is thought to be as backward a State as ours has got one already. In our State we have not a single jute mill, although so much jute is grown in that State and the finest jute in India—I exclude Pakistan—is grown in the State of Assam. Still no money is granted to the Government of that State for these purposes. At one time it was supposed that sufficient amount of money would be given for nationalisation of the jute and textile industry. At that time precisely people had money in their hands. Private enterprise started. But private enterprise was stopped by the Government because they said it would come out of their own nationalisation schemes. In the end the Government of India is supposed to have withdrawn all their aid and finance with the result that neither the State of Assam could nationalise it nor the people of Assam could come forward to have mills of their own. This is the position. When I go to the State of Assam they say "the Government of India has not given us sufficient grant" When I come to the Government of India they promise milk and honey, but nothing is actually given. That is the grievance not of me alone but of the State of Assam also.

I am not saying all this in a spirit of carping criticism. I appreciate whatever has been done by our Ministry. Our Ministry was not suffering from their not doing anything. Our Ministry is suffering for want of the proper propaganda. I become full of pride, distended with pride, on what Government has been always trying to do to help agriculturists. Just a few years ago we could never have conceived that aeroplanes would be used to root out the locust menace. A number of aeroplanes were used recently for this purpose and the locusts were absolutely removed. Flood and earthquake are a feature of the calamity in the State of Assam. And so much has been done at the time of emergencies like these that one cannot but be thankful. Food has been dropped from aeroplanes in the affected areas, a thing which was unheard of before, although greater calamities had visited the country before. All this is good and fine. If we criticise in this House, we criticise not with any inimical spirit but we criticise with a hope that more will be done for us. Unless the baby cries, the mother does not suckle it. We should not make any carping criticism. I would give all credit for the Finance Minister for what he has done but more things are expected from him.

It has been described by my hon. friend, Kumari Annie Mascarene that our Finance Minister is a man of incomparable virtue and beauty, sorry duty.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: That is yours.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: So, nothing but good can be expected of that Ministry.

Another thing to which I should like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister—I hope he is not annoyed with me—is that just now I heard only about rupees three crores were given to help the situation dur-

ing calamities. If that rupees three crores is meant for Assam only, it is well and good because nothing short of crores of rupees can help Assam in times of difficulty where floods are a permanent feature and earthquake comes almost frequently. Therefore, I hope the amount that has been allotted to meet the calamitous situation will be solely earmarked for that State and if any other State, God forbid, is placed in the same condition, they should have additional grants from the Finance Ministry.

It is a happy sign that the hon. Ministers of the Centre, including the hon. Prime Minister himself, have made several visits to Assam from time to time and it is the hallowed visit of these hon. Ministers, including the hon. Prime Minister, that will, I think, enable that State to rise equal to other States of India. I am not tired of repeating this that unless Assam is brought at par with the rest of India, the rest of India can never attain the eminence which she deserves.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह (जिला बनारस-मध्य) : हमारे वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने जो एक समरी सब लोगों को दी है, उसमें पैरा ग्यारह में एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट के बारे में जो शुभ कामनाएं प्रकट की हैं उनके वास्ते में आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं और साथ ही साथ में आप से यह निवेदन करूंगा कि जो शुभ कामनाएं आपने प्रकट की हैं उन्हीं के अनुसार आचरण भी होना चाहिये।

7 P.M.

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon. Member requires more time to finish his speech.

The House then adjourned till Two of the Clock on Tuesday, the 7th April, 1953.